



# EAUC Living Labs Project

Webinar 1: A Living Labs Dialogue

Speakers:

Hassan Waheed, Researcher, EAUC

Emily Dunning, Living Laboratory for Sustainability Coordinator, University of Cambridge

Dave Gorman, Director of Social Responsibility & Sustainability, University of Edinburgh

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# Introduction and Update

## Phase 1 (July - December 2016)

### Research Plan

- ▶ Literature review - ongoing
- ▶ International case studies - ongoing
- ▶ National case studies - ongoing
- ▶ Interview phase (tentative)
- ▶ Analysis phase
- ▶ Research outputs
  - ▶ Practical Toolkit/Resource Bank
  - ▶ Report

### Engagement Plan

- ▶ Series of 3 webinars (discussion on content to follow)
- ▶ 3 updates during webinars
- ▶ 'Outputs' survey following webinar
- ▶ Presenting 'work in progress'
- ▶ Dissemination of outputs
- ▶ Envisioned webinar on findings
- ▶ Proposed event in January
- ▶ Ongoing open consultation

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# Benefits of LL

## Learning, Teaching & Research

### Students

- ▶ Richer practice-based learning experiences for students, tangible case studies to work on
- ▶ Professional skills & employability
- ▶ Student retention & student satisfaction
- ▶ Productive and positive use of student learning efforts & time
- ▶ Meaningful engagement, students feel involved
- ▶ Platform with strong foundations for developing internship opportunities, volunteer projects, awards schemes etc.

### Academics

- ▶ Rich and positive learning experience for academics by engaging practically on campus
- ▶ Positive, discernible and demonstrable research impact: contributing to 'impact agenda'
- ▶ Involvement of academics in important 'closer to home' sustainability issues
- ▶ Accessible local research opportunities which could serve as excellent case studies to relate to the 'global impact' factor
- ▶ Increased potential for collaboration with other parts of the university as well as external organisations

## Operations & Community

### Administrative, Estates & Operations

- ▶ Improved sustainability (resource efficiency, carbon footprint, social benefits, cost-effectiveness etc.); benefits of intensive research without attached costs
- ▶ Knowledge-transfer: institution doubly benefits from rigorous student/academic research
- ▶ Allows work on areas which sustainability or estates teams have lacking capacity and/or expertise in
- ▶ Building an evidence-base or repository of useful data and research on campus operations
- ▶ Stronger partnerships and bridging gap with students & academics: easier connection to engage with and collaborate in future, plus admin & operations areas contribute to learning & research

### Community engagement

- ▶ A strong foundation for enhanced community engagement and positive local impact
- ▶ Potential for further collaborations and partnerships with local businesses, charities, communities and government bodies engaged
- ▶ Demonstration of institution acting on sustainability multi-dimensionally, a great reputational boost locally and globally

# Living Laboratory for Sustainability

University of Cambridge



Emily Dunning, Environment and Energy, Estate Management

# Overview

1. Journey so far
2. Outcomes
3. How it works
4. Successes and benefits
5. Challenges
6. Future



# 1. Journey so far

- **2010:** Concept established by a student through a summer internship funded by Santander Universities
- **2011:** Formal 3 year funding proposal submitted
- **2012:** Programme delivery began; Living Lab Coordinator recruited to support project development
- **2014:** Funding extended for another 3 years



## 2. Activity to date

- 62 projects
- 123 students involved
- ~570 additional students reached (e.g. attended course/event supported by Living Lab)
- Previous annual reports available: [www.environment.admin.cam.ac.uk/living-lab/yearly-review](http://www.environment.admin.cam.ac.uk/living-lab/yearly-review)



### 3. How it works: Aims

- **IMPACT:** Improve the environmental sustainability of the University of Cambridge
  - **INNOVATION:** Test and research different aspects of sustainability using the University's Estate
  - **EDUCATION:** Enhance students' educational experience & opportunities for applying knowledge
- 



### 3. How it works: Activities



# 4. Successes and benefits: Project example

- *Engineering student Si Min Lee 2013-14*
  - Energy performance analysis of the Sainsbury Laboratory
  - Investigation of gap between designed energy consumption performance and built/operating performance
- ↓
- Helped to implement changes in the Building Energy Management System
  - 30% reduction in energy use (since June 2015 compared to previous years)



*"It was useful to have all the data pulled together and presented in an accessible format. It has helped me win support for energy saving initiatives at the lab including a partnership with a building controls company to identify areas where energy is wasted."*

Stephen Andrews, Facilities Manager, Sainsbury Laboratory

## 4. Successes and benefits: general

- Helps increase profile of our team overall
- Increases our links with the academic community
- Provides tangible opportunities for students, in a flexible way



# 5. Challenges

- Measuring impacts and recording outcomes
- Using research for practical purpose and operational impact
- Increasing profile and appeal more widely
- Data – accuracy, granularity, longevity

## OUTCOMES



Effects on university  
operations



Environmental  
impacts



Culture change  
across the university



Teaching and  
research



Student  
experience

## 6. Future

- More projects
- More departments/subject areas
- More monitoring of impacts
- More outreach within the University
- More funding (we hope!)



# Contact information

**Website:** [www.environment.admin.cam.ac.uk/living-lab](http://www.environment.admin.cam.ac.uk/living-lab)

**Email:** [living.laboratory@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:living.laboratory@admin.cam.ac.uk)

**Twitter:** @CambridgeSust

**Facebook:** /CUenvironment

# A Living Lab approach at the University of Edinburgh

Dave Gorman, Director of Social Responsibility and Sustainability

EAUC webinar August 2016



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Social Responsibility  
and Sustainability

# SRS areas for the University



Climate change



Sustainable estates



Sustainable procurement,  
fair trade and supply  
chains



Responsible  
investment



SRS in learning  
and teaching



Fair employer and  
equality and diversity  
issues



Widening  
participation



Community  
engagement



Public  
engagement



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# SRS Living Lab definition:

- At the University of Edinburgh, treating the University as a Living Lab means *'using our own academic and student research capabilities to solve social responsibility and sustainability issues relating to our infrastructure and practices. Collaborative Living Lab projects can provide answers and guidance for operations and professional services staff; real-life learning opportunities for students; and opportunities for research impact for academics'*



# Collaborators

- Researchers via our SRS Academic Network
- Edinburgh Living Lab – established by academics in Informatics, Design and Social and Political Science
- Students – individually through dissertation projects; through course collaborations e.g. Case Studies in Sustainable Development
- Operations – building networks of partners



# An approach

Stage	Activities
<b>Problem identification and formation</b>	Stakeholder workshops; briefing papers on background of issue; research on global best practice and 'gap analyses'
<b>Data sharing and generation</b>	Operations staff share quantitative data, automated data accessed, staff and students are interviewed/take part in focus groups, observations, reflective journaling, project meetings to reflect and analyse
<b>Reporting and sharing findings and recommendations</b>	Written report circulated; additional stakeholder workshops to move from questions to answers
<b>Implementation of changes</b>	As appropriate/feasible
<b>Monitoring, modifying, reflecting</b>	Embedding an action research approach
<b>Sharing research</b>	Research publications, conference presentations



# Project examples

**R&Dialogue**

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Tweets

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@RnDialogue  
Now, first-of-its-kind global initiative of cities & local governments leading in the fight against #climatechange  
<https://twitter.com/eumayors/status/74542965927140160>  
Posted on 22 Jun

**R&DIALOGUE TEAM**

**BUILDING A LOW CARBON SOCIETY TOGETHER**

Exploring (R&) Dialogue

Our goal is to improve the dialogue on how to achieve a low-carbon society. A dialogue between research and civil society communities. We aim to contribute to a joint vision towards a low-carbon society in Europe. We are research organisations and NGOs in the field of energy. We are a consortium of 15 partners in 10 European countries. We are R&Dialogue. This is what we have done.

**European Low-Carbon Vision and Action Plan**

Type of paper: European paper

How do we bring different groups together in constructive dialogue on our low-carbon future? The R&Dialogue project consortium believes that the objectives of the European Commission's 2050 Roadmap would be much easier to achieve if citizens, civil society and scientists not only share the overall ambition of emissions reduction, but also agree with, and contribute to, the possible solutions. When citizens feel part of the processes that give us low-carbon policies and solutions, we will

**European Dialogue Report**

Key R&Dialogue deliverable

In the R&Dialogue project, we facilitated in ten countries a low-carbon dialogue

**Now on the blog**

Mon, 13 Jun 2016 13:38:05

Discussion Paper R&Dialogue Italy: dialogue as an advanced form of democracy

Tue, 19 Apr 2016 15:59:49

PERSON platform invites R&Dialogue Coordinator Gert-Jan van der Panne on panel of EU Sustainable Energy Week session

Thu, 07 Jan 2016 22:30:30

Vision of a European low-carbon society: When the energy debate!

Report

April 2015

**Circular Economy Thinking and Action at the University of Edinburgh**

ZERO WASTE SCOTLAND

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University links with prisons in Scotland: report of events held on 4<sup>th</sup> December at the University of Edinburgh

Liz Cooper, December 2014



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**EDINBURGH LIVING LAB**

**Enhance**



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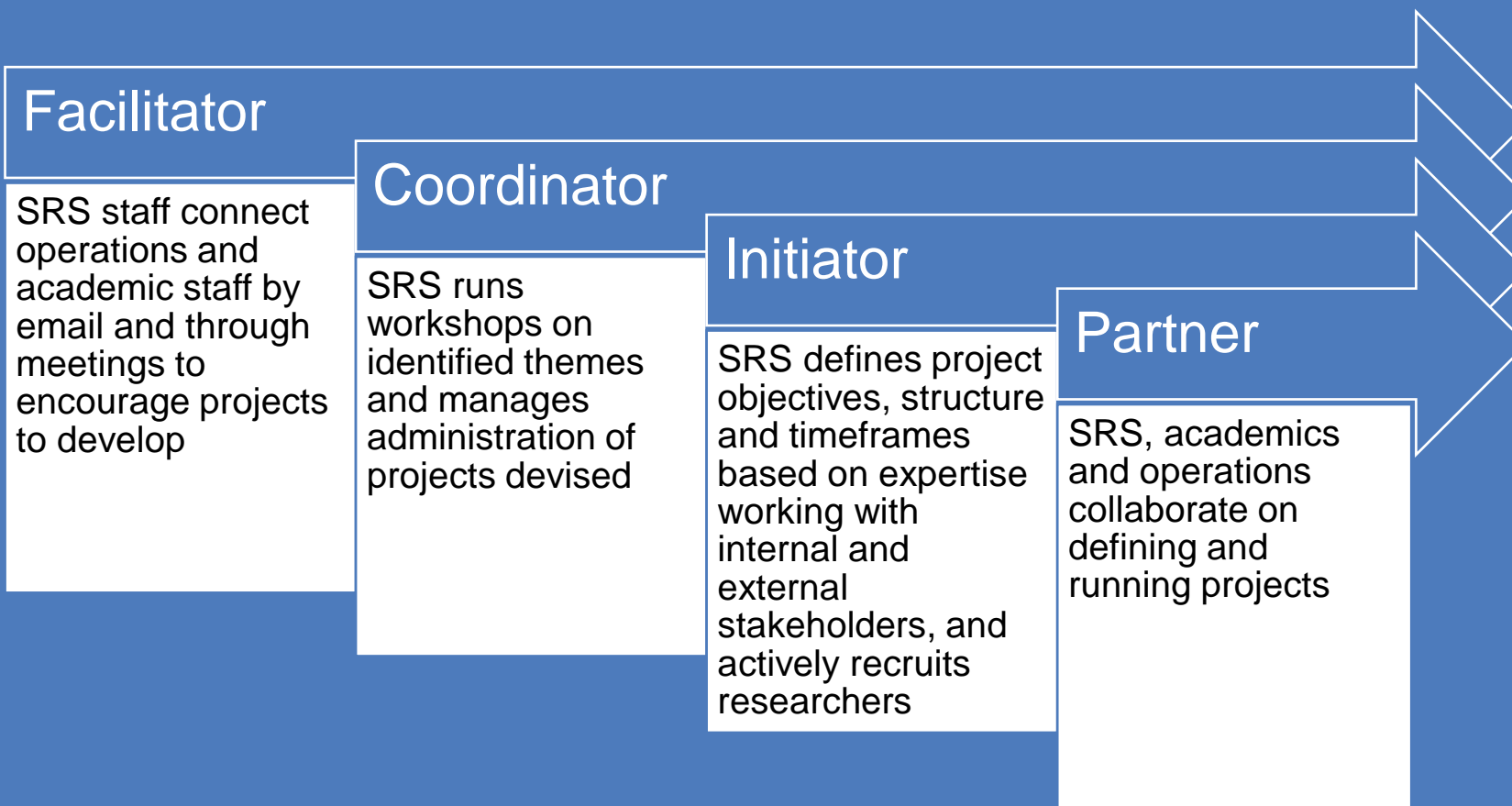
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Social Responsibility and Sustainability

# Our diverse roles as SRS



# Future plans

- Themed meetings e.g. energy, circular economy with our SRS Academic Network to develop research programmes, linking teaching and research to operational challenges
- Collaboration with Edinburgh Living Lab on developing a toolkit
- Further collaboration with EAUC on the Living Lab approach

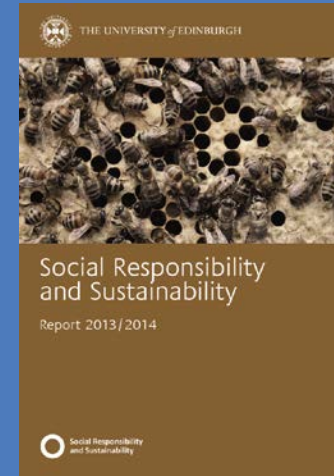


# Questions?

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# Discussion Time

Please take your microphones off mute or write your questions/comments in the chat box.

Contact Nina: [nbartlett@eauc.org.uk](mailto:nbartlett@eauc.org.uk)/01242 714321