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Antarctica meltdown could double sea level rise

Societal Impact Workshop

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Workshop leader: Stefan de Jong

Host: VU Amsterdam

Local coach: Sandy Broere-Lee (Grants Office), Diane Schöller (IXA Valorisation Office) Maurice Vanderfeesten (Library)

Agenda table

1	**Session A – Creating a spark!**
2	**Session B – Shining a light on your impact**
3	**Session C – Passing on the torch**

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Motivation

- To use the knowledge generated through my research in helping organizations to address complex societal problems of our times.
- To stay connected to real-life phenomena, to inform my own research.

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Inspiration: three examples

- **The Groentefroetels –** Communications scientist who examined the extent to which the media environment can encourage healthy eating habits in children in her PhD, and created humanized animal characters, Caterpillar, Rabbit, Monkey and Tortoise, who love eating fruit and vegetables to encourage the children to eat fruit and vegetables themselves.
- **Maria Carmen Punzi, PhD Candidate @ RSM –** Translating research on menstrual health into understandable content through social media, and serving as a speaker at events on menstrual health as an expert.
- **Jovana Karanovic, PhD Candidate @ VU -** Founder and the director of Reshaping Work that brings an international community together to discuss and debate the most pressing issues related to new digital trends and work.

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Impact strategy

Goal: Providing useful insights to enable collaborative-problem solving for grand challenges, as the findings from this study will provide a more effective way to unite diverse individuals around the same goal through the help of digital technologies. Many of the problems organizations are facing today are wicked in nature, they are ill-structured and ill- defined problems, thus, practitioners need novel approaches to develop solutions to these problems.
Challenge: SDG17 (partnerships for goals) → facilitating collaborations between organisations that aim to tackle complex societal challenges together and integrating the diverse knowledge, perspectives and expertise of individuals from different backgrounds to find innovative solutions to societal problems. Further, designing and organising a participatory architecture for diverse individuals to collaborate for societal problems may eventually contribute to all SDGs.
Audience: municipalities, NGOs, and for- profit organizations (specifically innovation managers).
Interactions: workshops for practitioners to disseminate the academic knowledge in an engaging and practical manner; trainings for innovation managers and moderators of collaborative crowdsourcing initiatives.

My research contributes to SDG:





Impact support: top recommendations

- Start thinking about the impact you want to create as soon as possible – do not wait until you have your results ready.
- Even a small chat with someone experienced in activities relevant to what you want to do for delivering impact with your research might be quite interesting.
- Talk to different parties – it is also helpful to understand what you do not want to do.
- Identify support mechanisms and contact them.

Stakeholder interaction: best practices

- Involve stakholders from the beginning – this will also inform your research and not just its impact.
- Prepare a pitch – putting your research in simpler words and shorter sentences will also make it clear for yourself.

Lessons learnt & achievements

- Don’t be afraid to reaching out to people – even at the beginning of a research Project
- The effort spent for impact activities and the actual research feed into each other
- Make a plan and update your plan.
- Don’t wait too much to start a dialogue with stakeholders.

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Thank you

Supporting information/contacts

The story behind the image



Antarctica meltdown could double sea level rise

Researchers at Pennsylvania State University have been considering how quickly a glacial ice melt in Antarctica would raise sea levels. By updating models with new discoveries and comparing them with past sea-level rise events they predict that a melting Antarctica could raise oceans by more than 3 feet by the end of the century if greenhouse gas emissions continued unabated, roughly doubling previous total sea-level rise estimates. Rising seas could put many of the world's coastlines underwater or at risk of flooding and storm surges.