Thursday 29 October 2026,
Our Dynamic Earth Edinburgh

Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

4th Annual Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (ENRA) Research, Evidence and Policy Conference

We look forward to welcoming delegates to the **4th Annual ENRA Research, Evidence and Policy Conference**. This flagship event brings together researchers, policymakers, delivery partners, industry representatives, and community stakeholders from across Scotland's rural and environmental sectors to share evidence, inform policy, and strengthen collaboration. This conference offers a valuable opportunity to reflect on the achievements of the current ENRA Research Programme (2022-2027), explore future challenges and opportunities, and help shape the evidence base that will support Scotland's environment, rural and island communities, and industries in the years ahead.

The conference aims to:

- Showcase how the Scottish Government-funded **ENRA Research Programme (2022–2027)**, is delivering tangible benefits for Scotland's environment, rural and island communities, and industries.
- Strengthen collaboration between researchers, policymakers, and key industry and community partners operating within Scotland's rural and environmental landscape.
- Facilitate discussion to ensure the ENRA Research Programme (2027-2032) reflects the needs and perspectives of Scotland's diverse rural and island communities, businesses, and sectors.

Key elements of the conference will include:

- **Research Impact Showcase -** Presentations and examples demonstrating how ENRA-funded research is informing policy and delivering practical benefits across Scotland.
- **Research Exhibition -** Poster display presented by SEFARI researchers including early career researchers and exhibits from the four Centres of Expertise highlighting impacts, from the ENRA Research Programme (2022-27).
- **Interactive Roundtable Discussions -** designed to encourage networking and to support future collaboration.

Participants will have the opportunity to:

- **Learn** about the latest research findings from the ENRA RP (2022-2027) and their application to policy and practice.
- **Engage** directly with researchers, policymakers, community representatives, and industry stakeholders to build networks and strengthen collaboration.
- **Contribute** views and insights that may help inform the next ENRA Research Programme (2027-2032).

Programme

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Time	Session
09:30 - 10:00	**Registration**
10:00 - 10:05	**Introduction to the day** Dr Vikki Halliday, Deputy Director, RESAS
10:05 - 10:10	**Recorded Ministerial Address** Ms Gillian Martin MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Climate Action and Rural Affairs
10:10 - 10:20	**Welcome from DG Net Zero** Professor Andy Kerr, Scottish Government
10:20 - 11:00	**ENRA Research Programme: Delivering Impact** Professor Sarah Skerratt, Chief Executive, Royal Society of Edinburgh. The ENRA Research Strategy Impact Framework introduces a shared approach to understanding and strengthening impact. Researchers, policy customers, partners and impacted communities will work together to articulate the changes that research is intended to support, examine the assumptions underpinning that pathway, and review progress and learning throughout the programme. This interactive session will explore the framework, introduce a shared way of working and showcase good practice.
11:00 - 11:30	**Networking, Refreshments and Poster Display**
11:30 - 13:00	**ENRA Research Programme: Delivering for Scotland** Through case studies and interactive panel discussions, this session will explore the themes of One Health and Climate Adaptation: Wildfires, highlighting the tangible impacts and benefits being delivered across Scotland through the ENRA RP (2022-2027).
11:30-12:15	**One Health** This session will showcase how ENRA research contributes to a One Health approach, recognising the connections between human, animal and environmental health.

	Highlighting a range of current research activities, the session will demonstrate how ENRA research is helping to address challenges such as foodborne pathogens, antimicrobial resistance and environmental contaminants, providing evidence to inform policy and strengthen resilience.
12:15 – 13:00	**Climate Adaptation: Wildfires** Using wildfire as an example, this session will explore some of the challenges we have as scientists and analysts when there is uncertainty, a dearth of evidence and divergent stakeholder narratives on the right policy approach. Using interactive audience participation, we will explore a number of statements that RESAS science advisers have recently had to provide advice on before hearing from subject experts on the current scientific consensus on each. The session will also highlight some of the evidence gaps we have around wildfire and outline some of the recent work we have been undertaking in the RESAS RP.
13:00 - 14:00	**Lunch, Networking and Poster Display**
14:00 - 14:45	**Parallel Breakout Sessions**
	Living Labs This interactive session will examine the role of Living Labs and how they will operate in the ENRA RP (2027-2032). It will explore key challenges associated with Living Labs and how they can be addressed in different research contexts. A panel will discuss what approaches and mechanisms are needed to ensure that Living Labs are genuinely community-centred, promote equality and generate tangible benefits for the communities they serve.
	Food System Food system resilience is increasingly used to describe Scotland's response to future challenges, but what does it mean in practice? This interactive panel discussion will explore differing perspectives

	on resilience, the key questions facing Scotland's food system, and the role of research in improving understanding and informing future decision-making.
14:45 - 15:15	**Refreshments, Networking and Poster Display**
15:15 - 15:30	**Poster Prize Giving** Presented by Kersti Berge, Director for Environment and Forestry
15:30 - 15:45	**Closing Reflections** Professor Mat Williams, Chief Scientific Adviser, ENRA
15:45	**Event Close**



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Posters

No	Name	Organisation or Affiliation	Poster Title
1	Jamie Stevenson	James Hutton Institute	Drought risk modelling and forecasting framework to inform the implementation of the National Water Scarcity Policy Plan in Scotland
2	John Addy	James Hutton Institute	What is happening to Scottish aphids? The influence of warmer winters on biodiversity and first flight
3	Zoe Marshall	James Hutton Institute	Back to the future: Helping barley grow on low nutrient soils using ancient genetics
4	Jennifer Savage	Moredun	Biannual ultrasound scanning for Ovine Pulmonary Adenocarcinoma (OPA) has the potential to eliminate the disease
5	Matt Elliot	RBGE/Plant Health Centre	The impact benefits of collaborative research and stakeholder-driven approaches
6	Hannah Peaty	Moredun	Modelling host: parasitic nematode interactions with ovine mini-gut organoids.
7	Grant Henderson	BioSS	BICI: toolkit for Large-scale data-driven process modelling

8	Jade Duncan	Moredun	From Living Lab to Farm: De-risking Sustainable Pasture Management
9	Ashish Dutta	James Hutton Institute	ClimaScope: mapping climate risk across Scotland
10	Frances Sandison	James Hutton Institute	Monitoring the environmental impact of controlled environment agriculture
11	Sophie Lawson	Moredun	Dynamics of antimicrobial resistance genes and mobile genetic elements in agricultural soil, livestock animals and associated environment
12	Simone Martino	James Hutton Institute	A natural capital valuation toolkit for aiding participatory landscape scale decision-making
13	Sam Poskitt	James Hutton Institute	Who is expected to achieve land use policy objectives for transformation?
14	Anam Wajid	Rowett Institute	Rethinking dietary fibre; a case for improved data approaches
15	Karolina Trdlicova	James Hutton Institute	Checklist for Embedding Natural Capital into Policy Development
16	Emmanuel Udugbezi	James Hutton Institute	Climate change Impact on Land Capability
17	Zisis Gagkas	James Hutton Institute	Predicting Wildfire Danger for Natural Capital Protection
18	Diana Valero	James Hutton Institute	Supporting the resilience of Private Water Supplies in Scotland

19	Simone Piras	James Hutton Institute	Theory of change scenarios of agricultural innovation in rural Scotland: Controlled Environment Agriculture in the Orkney Islands
20	Annika Bucky	Rowett Institute	The acceptability and effect of iron biofortification of microgreens on iron status in women - the VertiGreens study
21	Oana Petre	Rowett Institute /University of Aberdeen	From Co-production to Practice: Embedding Dietary Behaviour Change Support within Social Prescribing
22	Abigail Stephen	Rowett Institute	Co-creating and testing Cook Healthy, Eat Well (CHEW): a healthy eating intervention for adults experiencing food insecurity
23	Renata Garbellini Duft	Rowett Institute	The Chemical Identity of Scottish Honey: From Seasonality to Authenticity
24	Benjamin McCormick	Rowett Institute	Towards a digital twin of Scottish Agriculture
25	Amanda Mathieson	Rowett Institute	Cell based assays for the detection of chemical contaminants
26	Claire Hardy	James Hutton Institute /Moredun	Voices to be heard: Positive engagement around animal disease control
27	Emma Baxter	SRUC	Engaging with positive animal welfare (PAW)
28	Benedict Karani	Moredun	The Hidden Cost of Frequent Worming
29	Sophie Miller	James Hutton Institute	Fostering connections to maximise impact for Living Labs
30	Graham Horgan	BioSS	Interactive food swap tool for diet improvements

Exhibits

EPIC (Epidemiology, Population Health and Infectious Disease Control) – Centre of Expertise on Animal Disease Outbreaks.
EPIC provide high-quality advice and analysis on the epidemiology of animal diseases in Scotland and work to strengthen animal health across the country. EPIC is an animal health consortium project at the forefront of research on animal disease outbreaks, with a specific focus on their impacts on Scotland's livestock. EPICs comprehensive research spans exotic and emerging diseases affecting cattle, sheep, pigs, and poultry. Based in Scotland, EPIC brings together diverse expertise under one umbrella and employs a multi-disciplinary approach that integrates statistics, veterinary epidemiology, mathematical modeling, economics, molecular biology, and social sciences. Funded by the Scottish Government, EPIC collaborates closely with other centers of expertise contributing to a holistic approach to safeguard the welfare of Scotland's livestock industry and stakeholders.

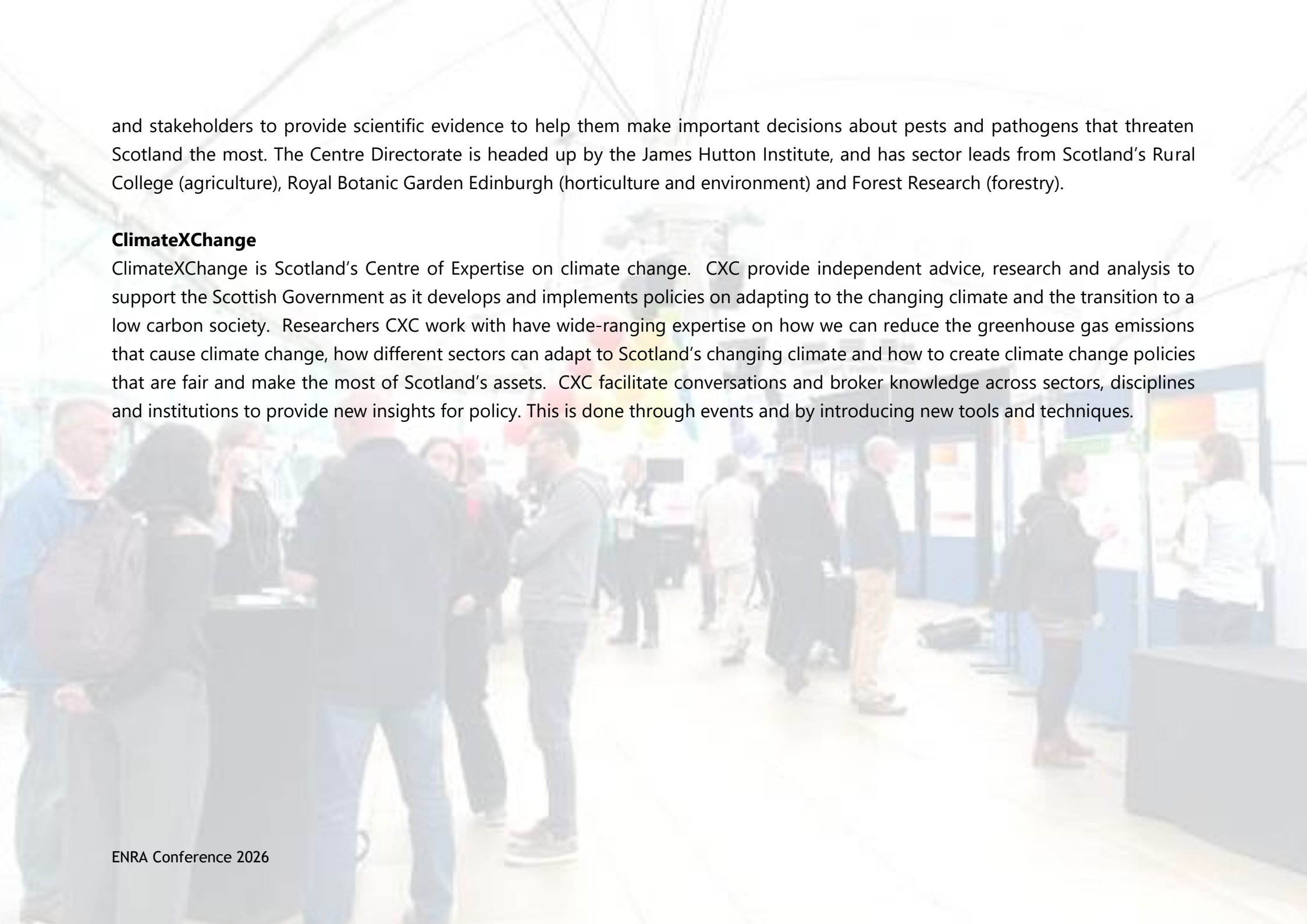
CREW Centre of Expertise for Waters
CREW are a Scottish Government funded partnership between the James Hutton Institute and Scottish Universities providing expertise and advice from across Scotland, enhancing coordination and synergy of science and stimulating innovative thinking in support of water policy. CREW plays an active role in maintaining and improving the quality of all fresh and marine water in Scotland by providing the best available scientific advice to inform Scottish Government water management policy. Our job is to engage and connect major players in Scotland's water management and expertise, brokering knowledge between our CREW research community and the policy community/policy makers.

Plant Health Centre
The Plant Health Centre is a virtual centre of expertise funded by Scottish Government. Working with the Chief Plant Health Officer for Scotland, the Centre brings the plant sectors for forestry, horticulture, environment and agriculture together to co-ordinate plant health knowledge, skills, needs and activities across Scotland. The Plant Health Centre work with Scottish Government, public bodies

and stakeholders to provide scientific evidence to help them make important decisions about pests and pathogens that threaten Scotland the most. The Centre Directorate is headed up by the James Hutton Institute, and has sector leads from Scotland's Rural College (agriculture), Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (horticulture and environment) and Forest Research (forestry).

ClimateXChange

ClimateXChange is Scotland's Centre of Expertise on climate change. CXC provide independent advice, research and analysis to support the Scottish Government as it develops and implements policies on adapting to the changing climate and the transition to a low carbon society. Researchers CXC work with have wide-ranging expertise on how we can reduce the greenhouse gas emissions that cause climate change, how different sectors can adapt to Scotland's changing climate and how to create climate change policies that are fair and make the most of Scotland's assets. CXC facilitate conversations and broker knowledge across sectors, disciplines and institutions to provide new insights for policy. This is done through events and by introducing new tools and techniques.



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Keynote Speakers



Gillian Martin MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Climate Action and Rural Affairs – Recorded Address

Gilliam Martin MSP was appointed as Cabinet Secretary for Climate Action and Rural Affairs in May 2026.

Ms Martin grew up in Newburgh, Aberdeenshire. Prior to her role as an MSP, she lectured in Television Production at North East Scotland College and ran her own video production company. She also designed safety courses for the energy industry and was the manager of an emergency media response team for companies operating in the North Sea for 10 years. Ms Martin was elected as a Member of the Scottish Parliament to represent Aberdeenshire East in 2016. She was appointed as Minister for Energy and the Environment in March 2023, and Minister for Energy, Just Transition and Fair Work in February 2024. In May 2024 she was appointed as Minister for Climate Action. In July 2024, Ms Martin was appointed as Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy, for the duration of Màiri McAllan's maternity leave. In June 2025, she was appointed as Cabinet Secretary for Climate Action and Energy.



Professor Andy Kerr, **Director-General Net Zero, Scottish Government** Andy Kerr has held leadership roles in organisations including start-ups, commercial trading business, and innovation agencies over the past two decades. Most recently, as Chief Strategy Officer of Climate-KIC, Europe's climate innovation agency. Previously, Andy was founding director of the award-winning Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation (ECCI), co-Director of Scotland's Centre of Expertise on Climate Change, ClimateXChange, and a Professor of Practice at the University of Edinburgh.



Dr Vikki Halliday BVMS, LLB, PGCert, MRCVS is Deputy Director for Rural and Environmental Scientific and Analytical Services (RESAS) in the Scottish Government. A veterinary surgeon by profession, she has worked across government, industry, clinical practice and the pharmaceutical sector. Her career includes operational leadership during the 2001 Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak, specialist work in veterinary ophthalmology, and senior roles in Food Standards Scotland, Scottish

Government's Marine Directorate and Economic Development Directorate, leading on strategy, policy and governance of Scottish Government strategic commercial assets. She currently leads the Scottish Government's strategic research investment in Environment, Natural Resources and Agricultural (ENRA) science, overseeing programmes that provide the evidence base for policy development across Environment and Forestry, Agriculture and Rural Environment, and Land Reform policy areas. Vikki also holds an LLB in Scots Law and serves on the Law Society of Scotland's Rural Affairs Committee.



Professor Mathew Williams, Chief Scientific Adviser for Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture

Professor Williams provides independent science advice on issues such as the environment, agriculture and the wider rural economy and champions the use of evidence to inform policy development and delivery. This is a part-time position (three days a week) and Professor Williams retains an academic position at the University of Edinburgh where he leads the Global Change Ecology Lab in the School of GeoSciences at the University of Edinburgh.

Session 1: ENRA Research Programme Delivering Impact



Professor Sarah Skerrat, Chief Executive of the Royal Society of Edinburgh

Sarah is Chief Executive of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE), Scotland's National Academy, and Professor of Rural Society and Policy. She joined the RSE in 2020 and became Chief Executive in 2022. Working collaboratively with the President, Office-Bearers, Council, Fellows and colleagues across the RSE, she supports the delivery of its strategy and the use of the collective expertise to create public benefit across Scotland and internationally. For more than 30 years, Sarah has researched rural community resilience, disempowerment, poverty and mental health. She has helped shape rural and national policy through robust evidence (particularly the lived experience of communities) and has worked with governments, parliaments, universities, businesses, charities, communities and development agencies in Scotland and internationally. During a two-year secondment to Audit Scotland, she established its Islands Forum. From 2018 to 2026, she served as Scientific Director of the Scottish Consortium for Rural Research. Across her work, Sarah champions inclusive leadership, collaboration, place-based development and the use of knowledge and evidence to deliver lasting public benefit.

Session overview

The **ENRA Research Strategy Impact Framework** introduces a shared approach to understanding and strengthening impact. Researchers, policy customers, stakeholders and impacted communities will work together to articulate the changes that research is intended to support, examine the assumptions underpinning that pathway, and review progress and learning throughout the programme.

This interactive session will explore the framework, introduce a shared way of working and showcase good practice.

Session 2: ENRA Research Programme Delivering for Scotland

1. One Health

This session will showcase how research across the Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (ENRA) Strategic Research Programme contributes to a One Health approach, recognising the interconnections between human, animal and environmental health. The session will highlight a range of current research activities, including work within the ENRA programmes Diet and Food Safety theme, which addresses key One Health challenges such as the transmission of foodborne pathogens, antimicrobial resistance (AMR), and environmental contaminants across the food system.

The session will also explore how One Health approaches can operate more widely in the future, in and across Scottish Government, agencies and other organisations. By strengthening collaboration across human, animal, environmental and food-system disciplines, successful adoption of One Health approaches will improve understanding of health risks, identify effective interventions, and support more coordinated approaches to managing emerging risks.

Panelists:

- **Chair: Professor Calum Semple OBE, PhD (Lond), BM BCh (Oxon), FRCPE, FRCPCH, FFPH, FRSM**. is the Chief Scientific Adviser (CSA) for Scotland, a secondment to the Scottish Government that began in August 2025. He retains his roles as Professor of Outbreak Medicine and Child Health at the University of Liverpool, and Consultant in Paediatric Respiratory Medicine at Alder Hey Children's Hospital. Raised in Glasgow and Edinburgh, Calum has a PhD in Clinical Virology and qualified in Medicine at Oxford. He has led research on HIV/AIDS, Bronchiolitis, Influenza, Ebola, Mpox, COVID-19 and Hepatitis. His research leadership in Sierra Leone during the Ebola crisis earned his team the Queen's Ebola Medal, and their work with survivors was recognised by a Commonwealth Association Award. Calum has served in key advisory roles during public health emergencies, including the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies for COVID-19. He was appointed OBE in 2020 and elected Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health by Distinction in 2022.

- **Professor Nicola Holden** is a Professor of Food Safety at SRUC and molecular microbiologist by training. She leads the research team in the Centre for Epidemiology and Planetary Health and spends her time between Aberdeen and Inverness campuses. Her own research is on understanding transmission pathways for zoonotic bacterial pathogens to support both public health and the agri-food sector. Nicola obtained her PhD from the University of Edinburgh on Salmonella, followed by post-doctoral positions on pathogenic E. coli also at Edinburgh, before setting up her own work at the James Hutton Institute on the role of plant hosts in transmission of foodborne pathogens. She moved to SRUC, Aberdeen, in 2020. In 2023 Nicola secured a UKRI-funded policy fellowship, enabling her to work with Scottish Government CSA, Prof. Julie Fitzpatrick, on Scottish expertise and resources for One Health pathogens. This unique opportunity provided excellent insight into a devolved government and its mechanisms, just as updated pandemic preparedness and associated One Health strategies were under development. This has led Nicola's work to be much closer to the academic-policy interface, especially around biosecurity and disease risk.
- **Professor Karen Scott**, PhD, is a Professor of Research in the Gut Microbiology Group at the Rowett Institute, University of Aberdeen. She leads a research team investigating the (molecular) mechanisms by which key members of the gut microbiota interact with the diet and host, at different life-stages. The fermentation products of gut bacteria contribute to gut health and are differentially expressed on different substrates, including prebiotics. In vitro bacterial growth studies utilising the Rowett's large culture collection of gut anaerobes illustrate niche-specific processes and bacterial interactions, identifying strains with potential for development as probiotic/live biotherapeutic products. This work encompasses a One Health approach, building our understanding of gene flow between bacteria in diverse environments including soils, and animal and human guts, and identifying novel solutions for pathogen control and improving biodiversity.
- **Mrs Fiona Quinn Head of Surveillance, Population Health Protection and Capabilities Division** studied Agriculture at the University of Edinburgh and worked in the Agricultural sector before joining the Scottish Government in 1999 as an Agricultural officer. Fiona has since held a wide range of Scottish Government roles in different operational and policy areas including Agriculture, Rural Policy, Environmental policy, Housing and Energy before moving to her current role in Population health during the pandemic. During her tenure in Environmental Policy Fiona also completed a post graduate

diploma in Leadership and Management with the University of Highlands and the Islands.

- **Professor Dominic Mellor,** is employed as Consultant in Veterinary Public Health by Public Health Scotland (PHS), where he co-leads the Zoonoses, Emerging Infections & Borders (ZEBr) team. Dominic is also affiliated to University of Glasgow, where he originally trained as a vet, in the role of Honorary Professor in Epidemiology and Veterinary Public Health. Dominic was Director of EPIC Scotland from 2016-22 and is currently a member of Animal and Plant Health Agency - GOV.UK Science Advisory Board.

2. Climate Adaptation – Wildfires

This session will foster a shared understanding of the complexities involved in managing and adapting to environmental hazards in a changing climate.

Using interactive audience participation, we will explore a number of statements that RESAS science advisers have recently had to provide advice on before hearing from subject experts on the current scientific consensus on each. The session will also highlight some of the evidence gaps we have around wildfire and outline some of the recent work we have been undertaking in the RESAS programme.

This session will explore the challenges faced in providing suitable advice to policy when evidence is lacking, uncertainty is high and stakeholder narratives are divergent, highlighting the need for more science and evidence to give policy and practitioners the tools to address the increasing risk of wildfires in Scotland.

Panelists:

- **Chair: Jack Bloodworth, Principal Science Advisor, RESAS**
- **Stuart Smith, Herbivore Impact Ecologist, James Hutton Institute.** Stuart is an applied plant ecologist at the Institute focusing on how land-use management and restoration influences ecosystem functioning, particularly the impacts of herbivory and fire on plant communities and carbon storage and cycling.
- **Zisis Gagkas, Senior Research Scientist, James Hutton Institute**. An interdisciplinary researcher with >15 years' experience in land, soil and water resources research and geospatial analysis. He has experience in developing approaches for modelling the spatial distribution of soils and other environmental properties and functions using advanced statistical and geospatial data analysis techniques.

Breakout sessions

Two parallel breakout sessions
Participants will be invited to join one session.

1. Building a Resilient Food Future for Scotland: What Matters Most?

Scotland's food system faces a range of environmental, economic and geopolitical pressures. Climate change, supply chain disruption, changing consumer behaviour, labour challenges, emerging diseases, affordability pressures and international developments all have the potential to affect food security and wider food system outcomes. Research undertaken through Scotland's ENRA Research Programme has already improved understanding of many of these challenges. At the same time, increasing uncertainty has highlighted the need for a broader understanding of food system resilience. While many risks are well recognised, there is less consensus on how resilient Scotland's food system currently is, where the greatest vulnerabilities lie, how resilience should be measured, and which actions would most effectively strengthen preparedness for future shocks.

This panel session will explore differing perspectives on resilience, reflect on lessons emerging from current research, and consider how future research can support policymakers, businesses, communities and public bodies to better understand vulnerabilities, monitor resilience and prioritise action in an increasingly uncertain environment. Particular attention will be given to how evidence can support decision-making across government, local authorities, health boards, industry and communities, and where important gaps in knowledge remain.

Panel Members

- **Dr Vikki Halliday, Deputy Director RESAS**
- **David Thomson, Chief Executive Food and Drink Federation Scotland.** As FDF Scotland's CEO David is part of the senior FDF management team. David represents the views and concerns of members to Scottish and UK governments, other policy makers, politicians and the media. David is a member of the Scotland Food & Drink Partnership Board and an Honorary Fellow of Abertay University for his work supporting the food and drink industry. He

previously worked at the Scottish Government, including five years as Head of Food, Drink and Rural Communities.

- **Professor Baukje de Roos, Rowett Institute.** Professor Baukje de Roos is an internationally recognised researcher in sustainable nutrition, human health and food systems with over 25 years of expertise. She leads the Scottish Government-funded Strategic Research Programme (2022-2027) Topic on Food & Drink Improvement, and Diet & Food Safety and also serves as an Environmental Technical Advisor to the World Health Organization on global guidance for animal- and plant-source food consumption
- **Professor Mary Brennan, Chair of Food Marketing and Society at University of Edinburgh Business School,** Director of the Wellcome Trust funded "Living Good Food Nation Lab" project (Feb 2024 – current) and one of 4 inaugural members (public appointments) of the Statutory Scottish Food Commission (4 year Term - June 2025 – June 2029). Mary adopts an interdisciplinary, systems-based approach in her research drawing on, and working with, different disciplines to investigate complex food policy challenges. Mary is also a member of Safefood's (Food Safety Promotions Board (cross border body operating on the Island of Ireland) Scientific Advisory Committee, and was chair (2018-2025) of the Scottish Food Coalition (a coalition of over 50 civil society organisations who have come together to advocate for a fairer, healthier, more sustainable Scottish food system for all. Mary helped lead the coalitions work campaigning the Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act 2022.
- **Professor Deborah Roberts is Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Science, James Hutton Institute.** She holds an Honorary Chair in the Business School, University of Aberdeen. Her research experience spans agricultural economics and regional science and she has undertaken work for a wide range of funding bodies including the European Commission, DEFRA, ESRC, the Scottish Government, Forestry Commission, Scottish Natural Heritage and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

The session aims to:

- Explore the major risks and uncertainties facing Scotland's food system over the next decade.
- Explore differing perspectives on preparedness, vulnerabilities and priorities for action.

- Highlight examples of current research supporting food system resilience, including production, supply chain, public health and environmental dimensions.
- Stimulate discussion between researchers, policymakers, industry representatives and practitioners.

The session will discuss the following questions:

1. What does food system resilience mean from your perspective?
2. Which risks should Scotland be most concerned about, and why?
3. Where do you see the greatest opportunities for research and innovation to strengthen food system resilience?

2. Living Labs

This interactive session will examine the role of Living Labs and how they will operate in the ENRA Research Programme (2027-2032). It will explore key challenges associated with Living Labs and how they can be addressed in different research contexts. A panel will discuss what approaches and mechanisms are needed to ensure that Living Labs are genuinely community-centred, promote equality and generate tangible benefits for the communities they serve.

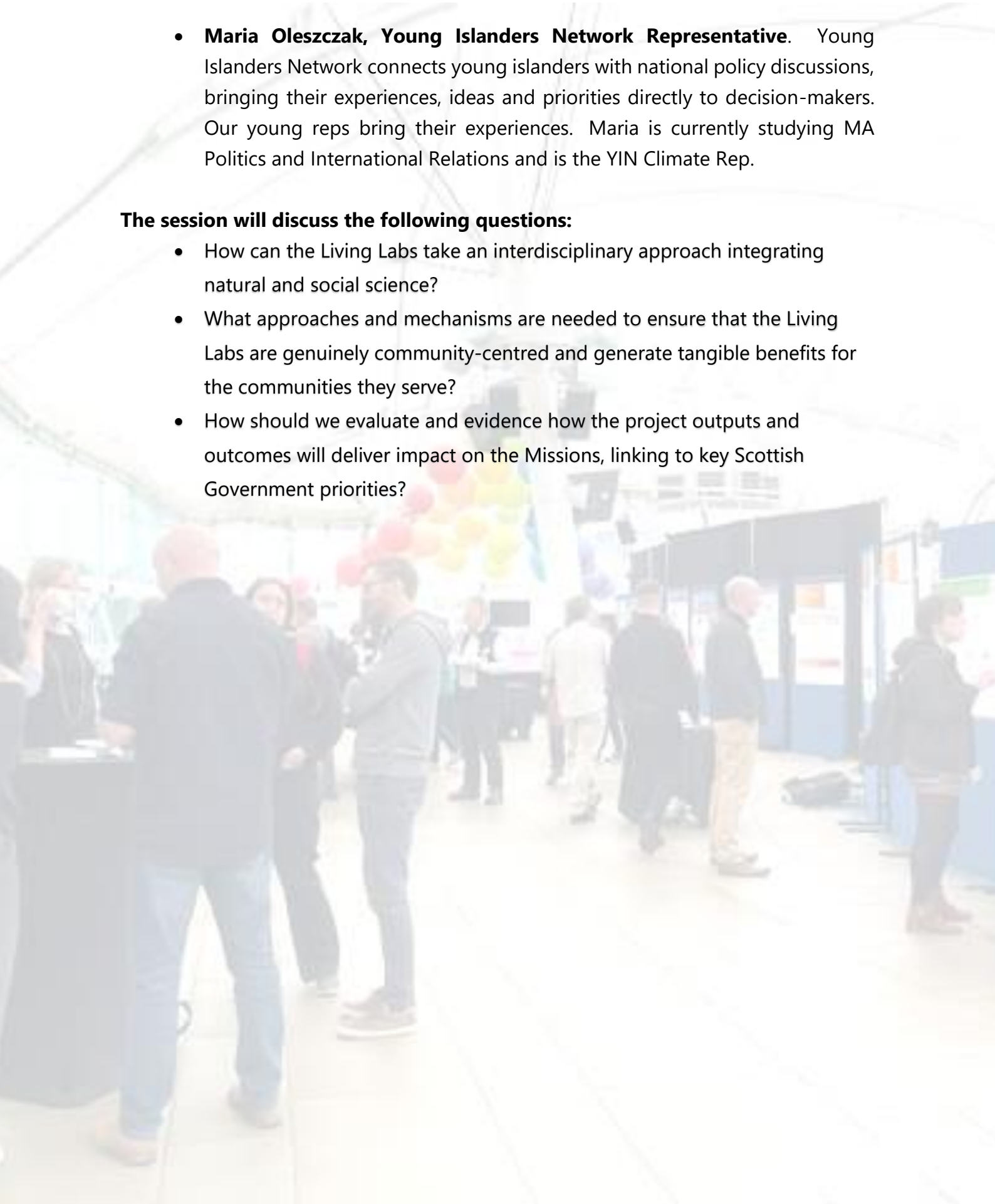
Panel members:

- **Eann Munro, Deputy Chief Scientific Adviser, RESAS (Chair)**
- **Professor Mathew Williams, Chief Scientific Adviser, Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture**
- **Dr. Fiona Kenyon is a principal research scientist at Moredun Research Institute** in Scotland. Her work is focused on developing sustainable parasite control strategies for livestock, which is funded through Scottish Government Strategic Research Programmes as well as grants from a variety of places including the BBSRC, NERC, the EU and Innovate UK.
- **Dr Mags Currie is Head of the Social, Economic and Geographical Sciences (SEGS) Department at the James Hutton Institute**. A human geographer with a PhD from the University of Aberdeen, she has led Living Labs development within the current Scottish Government Strategic Research Programme (2022-2027), with a particular focus on community-centred, interdisciplinary approaches to rural and island changes and challenges.

- **Maria Oleszczak, Young Islanders Network Representative**. Young Islanders Network connects young islanders with national policy discussions, bringing their experiences, ideas and priorities directly to decision-makers. Our young reps bring their experiences. Maria is currently studying MA Politics and International Relations and is the YIN Climate Rep.

The session will discuss the following questions:

- How can the Living Labs take an interdisciplinary approach integrating natural and social science?
- What approaches and mechanisms are needed to ensure that the Living Labs are genuinely community-centred and generate tangible benefits for the communities they serve?
- How should we evaluate and evidence how the project outputs and outcomes will deliver impact on the Missions, linking to key Scottish Government priorities?



Event Information:



<u>Location:</u> Our Dynamic Earth,

Our Dynamic Earth is located at the bottom of **Holyrood Road, Edinburgh [EH8 8AS],** neighboring the Scottish Parliament and the Palace of Holyrood House.

Walking - Dynamic Earth is an approximately 15-minute walk from the city centre (Princes Street) and there are several bus routes a short walking distance away. Click **HERE** for information on how to get to the centre.

Cycling - Dynamic Earth is close to the National Cycle Network. You can find details about the nearest cycling and walking routes here: **www.sustrans.co.uk**. 5 Bike racks are available in front of the large globe, at the foot of the Amphitheatre in front of Dynamic Earth.

Bus - There are a number of bus routes a short walking distance away. You can find details of all local bus services at **www.lothianbuses.com**. The 35 stops outside of the Scottish Parliament at the bottom of the Canongate (The Royal Mile) and Dynamic Earth is a 5 minute walk from there. Both stops are called Scottish Parliament.

Tram – The nearest tram stop is Princes Street and is a 20-25 minute walk away or 5-10 minutes by taxi.

Taxi – The taxi drop of point is located in the amphitheater right outside of the building.

Car - If travelling by car Dynamic Earth has on-site parking (approx. 120 spaces) allocated on first come basis - spaces cannot be reserved. The car park is located underneath the building with access via Holyrood Gait. Two lifts are available from the car park to the main entrance.
There are six electric car charging points for public use, and six wheelchair accessible parking bays. Free parking is available for all Blue Badge Holders, with tickets validated at the front desk.

Access:

Dynamic Earth is fully wheelchair accessible, with ramp access up to the entrance of the building and lifts throughout to navigate through the exhibition space, and to gain access to and from the car park. Wheelchair access to the car park is via the internal lifts only. Additionally, Dynamic Earth have disabled toilet facilities on both sides of the building, which include handle rails and wide door access. Dynamic Earth have 6 disable parking bays in their car park; to view their location, please download their access statement **ODE Access Statement**

Wi-Fi:

Wi-fi is available to conference delegates:

Network name: DELEGATES

Password: D3L3GATE

