
Invitation to Research Symposium

Knowledge Exchange on Sustainability Research at UM

Date: 27 November 2014

Time: 16:00 – 19:00 (registration starts at 15:45)

Location: Room A1.23 at Tongersestraat 53, Maastricht

Please send your confirmation of attendance to judith.enders@maastrichtuniversity.nl

Dear Madam or Sir,

You are warmly invited to participate in the second symposium on *Knowledge Exchange on Sustainability Research at UM*, the follow-up event to our successful first symposium in January earlier this year. At the first workshop participants expressed the wish to focus on specific topics that are of interest to a bigger audience. Hence the topic for the coming meeting is: **How should benchmarking for sustainability be conducted?**

We would like to invite you to discuss issues such as the types of industries that could use benchmarking for sustainability, methodologies for benchmarking and whether we can benchmark policies and local governments. Your input and participation is welcomed!

The aims of the symposium are to:

1. *strengthen the sustainability research community at UM by getting to know each other's work, interests and expertise.*
2. *explore future steps towards enhanced knowledge exchange and cross-faculty collaboration.*

The program includes:

- Keynote speech about benchmarking for sustainability by Prof Piet Eichholtz. This will provide a valuable basis for discussion about why we should and how we can use benchmarking for sustainability.
- Several moderated break-out sessions will provide the opportunity to discuss different topics in depth (types of industries that could use benchmarking for sustainability, methodologies for sustainability benchmarking, and sustainability benchmarking for policies and local governments), followed by a presentation and discussion with the overall goal of increasing collaboration among UM sustainability researchers.
- We will conclude with drinks to allow for networking.

Time	Program Item
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15:45	Reception and registration: Coffee & Tea
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16:00	Dr. Annemarie van Zeijl (Research Fellow Sustainable Development):
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	Welcome
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16:05	Judith Enders (Maastricht University Green Office):
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	Knowledge exchange about sustainability at UM
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16:10	Prof. Dr. Piet Eichholtz (Chair of Finance Department):
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Keynote speech: Benchmarking for sustainability

16:30	Formation of break-out groups
16:35	Break-out sessions
17:20	Presentation of findings by each break-out group
17:50	Conclusion by Prof. Dr. Piet Eichholtz
18:00	Networking opportunity: drinks and snacks at AdFundum
19:00	End

During the drinks at AdFundum you will have the opportunity to make announcements if you wish. Please let us know if you want to bring any material to make sure we have enough room to display them.

Furthermore, we would like to continue the **digital posters** tradition, which you are kindly requested to send to Judith.enders@maastrichtuniversity.nl. Digital posters consist of a brief Microsoft PowerPoint presentation of max. 10-15 slides. A digital poster can summarize your overall interests in sustainability research, focus on a specific research project you are or have been involved in, summary of a recent key publication, and/or can act as a portal to your online portfolio. Please keep it as concise as possible, while including enough text to be understandable. Readers should be able to view your slides within about 5 minutes. Submitting more than one poster, to reflect the diversity of your interests and achievements for instance, is possible and welcomed. If you have already submitted a digital poster in January you can of course send a revised version if necessary. You will not be expected to present your poster(s) during the symposium. The posters are available to all participants before and after the symposium via Dropbox (a separate invitation will be send to your email after you confirmed your attendance). In this way, other participants can view your posters and get in touch when they are interested and see possibilities for future joint sustainability-related research.

As a participant, your research interests and experiences are vital for making the symposium a valuable experience for everyone. We kindly request that you **confirm your attendance before 21 November by sending an email to judith.enders@maastrichtuniversity.nl**. Please also inform us in case you have registered but unexpectedly cannot come. If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to get in touch.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you at the symposium!

Organizing Committee:

Prof. Dr. Piet Eichholtz (SBE)
Dr. Annemarie van Zeijl-Rozema (ICIS)
Alex Baker-Shelley (ICIS)
Judith Enders, MSc student (Green Office)



Maastricht University
Green Office