

ESSSR Newsletter

November 2023

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the November 2023 edition of the ESSSR newsletter!

This month, we are excited to share with you a diverse array of sustainability topics and promising opportunities. From addressing the critical concerns of nature conservation and conflict in Ukraine to exploring innovative strategies for managing plastic waste and fostering a circular economy, our aim is to both inspire and inform you about the latest endeavours within the ESSSR network.

Within this edition, we are delighted to showcase recent symposiums, such as the Symposium on Sustainable Development hosted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Amazon 2030 - Sustainability Issues in The World's Largest Rainforest Region held in Brazil. These gatherings brought together experts from across the globe to deliberate and collaborate on urgent global challenges. Moreover, we extend an invitation for you to explore avenues for participation, including calls for papers, expressions of interest in hosting symposiums, and opportunities to collaborate on matters pertaining to sustainable development. Your active engagement in these initiatives can significantly contribute to the promotion of sustainable practices and the dissemination of knowledge.

We extend our gratitude for your valued membership in the ESSSR community. Together, let us persist in shaping a sustainable future and making a positive impact on the world.

Warm regards,

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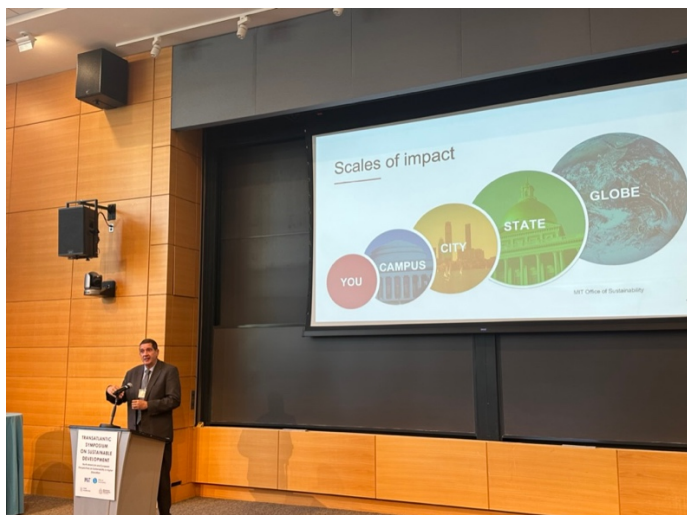
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1. NEWS

THE TRANSATLANTIC SYMPOSIUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT HOSTED BY THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY – OCTOBER 2023, CAMBRIDGE, MA, USA.

The Transatlantic Symposium on Sustainable Development hosted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, was held from the 02nd to the 04th of October 2023 in Cambridge, MA, United States. The event was attended by 140 professors, researchers, and graduate students from 26 different countries working on matters related to sustainable development in a higher education context. The Symposium covered strategic issues for sustainability in higher education, including sustainable campus operations, sustainability and the curriculum, sustainability research, and community engagement and cooperation.

As a long-lasting documentation of their works, the experiences of the presenters will be documented and promoted in the book "North American and European Perspectives on Sustainability in Higher Education", to be published by Springer Nature.



The event also promoted the launch of three recent Springer publications: the Handbook of Sustainability Science in the Future, and the volumes ‘Americas and the Caribbean Region’ and ‘European Region’, of the Book series Implementing the UN Sustainable Development Goals – Regional Perspectives.

The [Handbook](#) entails contributing authors from across a wide range of disciplines, e.g., education and social sciences, natural sciences, engineering, the arts, languages, etc., with papers adopting a long-term sustainability perspective, with a time horizon until 2050.

The [Book series](#) discusses matters related to the SDGs at the regional level and promote experiences, projects and best practice in each region.

AMAZON 2030 – SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES IN THE WORLD'S LARGEST RAINFOREST REGION - SEPTEMBER 2023, SANTARÉM, PARÁ, BRAZIL.

The Amazon 2030 – Sustainability Issues in the World's Largest Rainforest Region hosted by the Federal University of Western Pará (Brazil), was held on the 04th and 05th of September 2023 in Santarém, Pará, Brazil. The event was attended by more than 200 professors, researchers, representatives of NGOs and enterprises, graduate and undergraduate students from different countries working on matters related to sustainable development in respect of the Amazon region. More specifically, tackling issues related to: Amazon and land use issues; Biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services; Issues related to Indigenous people; Ecological threats by fires; Territorial management; Natural resources management; Food security; Poverty and social justice; Sustainable development prospects; Climate change; Circular economy & technologies to protect the environment.

The Symposium was part of the "Universities and Climate Change Initiative", a worldwide effort led by the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences in Germany, to combine the knowledge and know-how of universities, in order to tackle the many challenges posed by climate change. As a long-lasting documentation of their works, the experiences of the presenters will be documented and promoted in the book "Amazon 2030 – Sustainability Issues in the World's Largest Rainforests Region", to be published by Springer Nature.



ONLINE SEMINAR ON “HAMBURG SUSTAINABILITY SESSION #7: SUSTAINABLE AND FAIR SUPPLY CHAINS IN FOOD AND TEXTILE INDUSTRIES – AUGUST, 30 2023.

We are delighted to share with you that the seventh edition of the Hamburg Sustainability Sessions (HSS #7) focused on "Sustainable and Fair Supply Chains: examples from the Food and Textile Industries." This event was an insightful session to discuss the importance of sustainability and collaboration in global supply chains.

This English online event took place on August 30, 2023. We had three expert speakers introducing different innovative aspects of sustainability in food and textile supply chains. The first keynote was Prof. Dr. Marcos Fava Neves from the School of Business at the University of São Paulo (Brazil). The second speaker was Johanna Imiela from the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany). And the last one was Yana Guimarães from Cooxupé – SMC Specialty Coffees in Brazil.



4TH GRAND ANNUAL MEETING OF BIO-PLASTICS PROJECT AND SCIENTIFIC COLLOQUIUM – 19TH, 20TH AND 21ST OF SEPTEMBER 2023, BREMERHAVEN, GERMANY.



for this recognition, which not only validates the originality but also the importance of my work to the theory, underscoring the broader significance of nurturing sustainability leaders to drive transformative change in our educational systems." The supervisor for this award-winning research was Prof. Dr. Walter Leal Filho.

GERMAN NATIONAL NEWSPAPER *DIE ZEIT* WROTE ABOUT THE RESULTS OF THE “UKRAINE-NATURE” PROJECT IN THE ARTICLE “CRIMES AGAINST NATURE”.

During the research, we discovered that valuable habitats of four preservation areas that belong to the European Emerald Network were endangered by: occupation and mine danger, shelling fires and setting on fires on purpose by Russians, ground battles, remote violence (explosions), military vehicles and machinery relocation, maintenance, and their repair.

It is quite scary to imagine that now Ukraine is the most mined country in the world. The mined territory of only four researched preservation areas now is more than 2,5 times bigger compared to Berlin. Land mines remain dangerous even after the war, killing or injuring all alive and rendering land impassable and unusable for decades.

More information about the project and how we collect data can be found here: https://lnkd.in/gTP_WgBt



2. PREMIUM MEMBERSHIP

Over and above the conventional membership, we are delighted to announce the ESSSR is now offering higher education institutions interested at and active on matters related to sustainable development, the opportunity to join ESSSR via a Premium Membership.

The benefits of Premium Membership include member-only discounts, no project preparation costs, increased public visibility, the status of preferred partner, professional development and advice and support offered by the ESSSR Staff and network. All these features will be covered by the annual membership fee of Euro 2.000.

Become a Premium Member now! For more information, visit our website: <https://esssr.eu/becoming-a-member/> and contact us at: ESSSR@ls.haw-hamburg.de



ESSSR's Premium Membership

Elevate Your Sustainability
Research and Success on Project Proposals

HAW HAMBURG

ESSSR
EUROPEAN SCHOOL
OF SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

The European School of Sustainability Science and Research (ESSSR) is a research infrastructure dedicated to advancing sustainability research in Europe. With over 70 members, ESSSR is the largest network on sustainability research in Europe. Since it was set-up in 2019, ESSSR has successfully secured a wide range of research projects, whose volume is in excess of Euro 20 million. Also, ESSSR members, together with members of its international twin, the Inter-University Sustainable Development Research Programme (IUSDRP), have published over 60 papers in high-calibre journals. Whereas a regular ESSSR membership is free of charge, a Premium Membership offers a set of advantages including exclusive academic trainings, waivers of project preparation costs and professional advice.

Benefits of Premium Membership

NO PROJECT PREPARATION COSTS

Premium Members will be waived of the fees for project preparation and application bids. Up to two waivers can be redeemed per year.

ADVICE AND SUPPORT

Premium Members will have access to advice and the support of ESSSR Staff and network when it comes down to preparing projects, events and papers, during the Premium Members' monthly meetings.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Premium Members will have access to exclusive scientific and sustainability-related workshops, seminars, and mentoring sessions, to develop the skills of their staff.

Over and above the conventional membership, we are now offering higher education institutions interested at and active on matters related to sustainable development, the opportunity to join ESSSR via a Premium Membership.

INCREASED PUBLIC VISIBILITY

Premium Members will have the exclusive opportunity to host events with the support of the ESSSR Staff, increasing their visibility nationally and Europe-wide.

PREFERRED PARTNER

Premium Members will be considered thematic leaders and preferred partners in publications, exclusive hosting of expert conferences and European and international project bids.

MEMBER-ONLY DISCOUNTS

Premium Members will enjoy two full waivers in registrations for ESSSR-related conferences, and 50% discount on additional registrations.

Annual Membership Fees

With an annual Premium Membership fee of **Euro 2.000**, all features listed above are covered.

BECOME A PREMIUM MEMBER NOW!

To become a Premium Member, contact us at:
ESSSR@ls.haw-hamburg.de

For more information, visit our website:
<https://esssr.eu/becoming-a-member/>

3. UPCOMING EVENTS

SYMPOSIUM "COMPETENCE BUILDING ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN UNDERGRADUATE AND POST-GRADUATE PROGRAMMES", 22ND AND 23RD FEBRUARY 2024, UMEÅ, SWEDEN

In collaboration with UTRI here at Umeå University, Professor Walter Leal at HAW Hamburg University and Gert-Olof Boström and Alice Annelin (associate Professors at Umeå University), we will be hosting a conference about sustainability competence in higher education. Competence development in sustainable development entails the definition and promotion of a set of knowledge, skills, values and attitudes necessary in order to achieve a sustainable future. Whereas competence building on sustainable development is relevant across all fields in both undergraduate and post-graduate programmes, integrating it across all core programmes may be challenging. Also, it is largely unclear how best this work should be undertaken, and which approaches, methods and strategies may yield the highest impact.

It is on the basis of the need to address this perceived gap and to foster a dialogue among persons working in the field of competence building, that the Symposium "Competence Building on Sustainable Development in Undergraduate and Post-Graduate Programmes" is being organised, and will be held in Umeå, Sweden, on 22nd-23rd February 2024. The event is being organised by the University of Umeå, Sweden, the European School of Sustainability Science and Research (ESSSR), the Inter-University Sustainable Development Research Programme and the UK Consortium for Sustainability Research (UK-CSR).

It is primarily aimed at European participants, but delegates from other parts of the world are also welcomed to attend it, and use this unique opportunity to document and disseminate their work. The Symposium will serve the purpose of discussing how competence building on sustainability may be better incorporated into university education. It is part of the "Accelerating the Implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals Series", which organises events aimed at fostering the implementation of the UN SDGs around the world.

As output and long-term documentation of the event, selected papers will be published in the book "Competence Building on Sustainable Development in Undergraduate and Post-Graduate Programmes", which will follow the success of the "Encyclopedia of Sustainability in Higher Education", which is a "Living Edition" and the "Encyclopedia of the UN Sustainable Development Goals", the world's largest editorial project on sustainable development ever undertaken. The book will be part of the World Sustainability Series the leading peer-reviewed book series on matters related to sustainable development. The last volume, "Educating the Sustainability Leaders of the Future" has just been launched: The peer-reviewed nature of the book means that contributions to them have been officially counted over the years for promotion and tenure purposes. To date, over 3.000 sustainability researchers have had their work published in the series.

Abstract submissions are open until 15th December 2023. Detailed information regarding the submission process and registration: <https://www.haw-hamburg.de/detail/news/news/show/symposium-competence-building-on-sustainable-development-in-undergraduate-and-post-graduate-programmes/>

SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE FINANCE, 27TH AND 28TH FEBRUARY 2024, ONLINE, LIVERPOOL, UK

According to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), climate finance refers to local, national or transnational financing – drawn from public, private and alternative sources of financing – that seeks to support mitigation and adaptation actions that will address climate change.

The Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement call for financial assistance from Parties with more financial resources to those that are less endowed and more vulnerable. This recognises that the contribution of countries to climate change and their capacity to prevent it and cope with its consequences vary enormously.

Climate finance is needed for mitigation, because large-scale investments are required to significantly reduce emissions. Climate finance is equally important for adaptation, as significant financial resources are needed to adapt to the adverse effects and reduce the impacts of a changing climate. Against this background and based on the need to discuss the principles of practice of climate financing, the "Symposium on Climate Finance: Opportunities in Funding Efforts Towards Decarbonisation and Climate Change Adaptation" is being organised by the European School of Sustainability Science and Research (Germany), the Inter-University

Sustainable Development Research Programme and the UK Consortium for Sustainability Research and Liverpool John Moores University.

The Symposium is an unprecedented event, mobilising the scientific and finance community, and geared towards a topic of central importance in global efforts to tackle climate change and its many impacts. It is a hybrid event, meaning that apart from on-line presentations, we will also cater for an on-line participation.

The Symposium aims to congregate representatives from government agencies, universities and research organisations on the one hand, but also from companies and enterprises on the other, working on matters related to climate financing. It also aims at providing a platform for the exchange of information, paving the way for technology transfer and networking. Furthermore, the Symposium intends to provide a fertile basis upon which persons and organisations attending it, may cooperate more closely in this key area.

Detailed information regarding the submission process and registration: <https://www.haw-hamburg.de/en/university/newsroom/news-details/news/news/show/symposium-on-climate-finance/>

ASIA-PACIFIC SYMPOSIUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION. HIROSHIMA, JAPAN, 4TH-5TH MARCH 2024

The Asia-Pacific region is currently grappling with significant environmental challenges, stemming from rapid economic growth, population expansion, and urbanization. These factors have led to the degradation of crucial ecosystems, resulting in issues such as water scarcity, air pollution, land degradation, and biodiversity loss. To ensure the long-term sustainability of the region, it is imperative for governments, businesses, and civil society to collectively address these challenges. Recognizing the urgency of sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region, the Research and Transfer Centre "Sustainable Development and Climate Change Management" at the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany), Manchester Metropolitan University (UK), and the University of Hiroshima (Japan) are organizing the "Asia-Pacific Symposium on Sustainable Development in Higher Education: Sustainability as a Driver of Prosperity and Peace." This symposium aims to facilitate a comprehensive discussion on the role of higher education institutions in advancing sustainable development in the region.

The symposium will focus on the contributions of higher education institutions to sustainable development and will explore various areas such as energy, water, waste management, biodiversity protection, and green infrastructure. By bringing together academics, researchers, and practitioners, the event seeks to foster meaningful dialogue and identify practical solutions for a sustainable future in the Asia-Pacific region. We encourage all researchers, academics, and practitioners in the field of sustainable development to participate in this significant symposium. Let's collaborate and work towards a sustainable and prosperous future for the Asia-Pacific region.

Abstract submissions are now open, and interested individuals are invited to submit their abstracts until December 15th, 2023. Detailed information regarding the submission process can be found at the following link: <https://www.haw-hamburg.de/en/university/newsroom/news-details/news/news/show/asia-pacific-symposium-on-sustainable-development-in-higher-education/>

SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION: CHALLENGES, ACTIONS AND PERSPECTIVES, 8TH AND 9TH MARCH 2024, SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, KOREA

Climate change mitigation and adaptation in the Asia-Pacific region are critical issues due to the vulnerability of Asian countries and Pacific Island nations to the impacts of climate change. These nations face rising sea levels, more frequent and severe storms, ocean acidification, and disruptions to their ecosystems, which threaten their livelihoods, cultures, and, in some cases, even their existence.

Climate change mitigation and adaptation in the Asia-Pacific region require a multi-faceted approach that combines efforts to reduce emissions with strategies to build resilience to the inevitable impacts of climate change. International collaboration, financial support, and the inclusion of local communities and traditional knowledge are essential elements of these efforts.

There is a perceived need to document and promote experiences in the field of climate change mitigation and adaptation in the Pacific region. It is against this background that the Symposium on Climate Change in the Asia-Pacific Region: challenges, actions and perspectives is being organised. It will be held in Seoul, Korea, on 8–9 March 2024.

The event is organised by Seoul National University (Korea), Sustainable Development and Climate Change Management Research and Transfer Centre at the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences in Germany and the Chair of Environment and Technology at Manchester Metropolitan University, United Kingdom. It is supported by the International Climate Change Information and Research Programme (ICCIRP) and will be undertaken in cooperation with various other organisations.

The symposium will follow the success of previous events held in Fiji in 2017 which led to the book "Climate Change Adaptation in Pacific Countries: Fostering Resilience and Improving the Quality of Life", and in Samoa in 2020, which led to the book "Managing Climate Change Adaptation in the Pacific Region".

Abstract submissions are open until 20th December 2023. Detailed information regarding the submission process and registration: <https://www.haw-hamburg.de/en/university/newsroom/news-details/news/news/show/symposium-on-climate-change-in-the-asia-pacific-region-challenges-actions-and-perspectives/>

SEMINAR "DIGITALISATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: LEVERAGING DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE", ONLINE, 15TH MARCH 2024

Digitalization is now part of everyday life, revolutionizing how we connect and work. Education has transformed with online learning, making it accessible worldwide. Leveraging digital tech is crucial for a sustainable future, given pressing global challenges. Technologies like AI and IoT optimize resources, especially in manufacturing and energy sectors. They enable efficient energy usage and integration of renewables. Big data informs decision-making in urban planning and conservation. Digital products and services are more resource-efficient than physical ones, reducing materials and energy usage. Remote work lowers carbon footprint. The growth of digitalization highlights the need for a broad discussion on sustainability efforts.

Against this background, the **online "Digitalisation and Sustainable Development: Leveraging Digital Technologies for a Sustainable Future"** is being organised by the European School of Sustainability Science and Research (ESSSR) <https://esssr.eu/>, the UK Consortium on Sustainability Research (UK-CSR) <https://www.mmu.ac.uk/research/research-centres/ecology-environment/groups/zero-carbon-sustainable-futures/UK-CSR> and the Inter-University Sustainable Development Research Programme (IUSDRP) <https://www.haw-hamburg.de/ftz-nk/programme/iusdrp.html>.

The aims of the event are to foster a greater understanding of the role of digitalisation in promoting the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), to introduce and explore innovative digital solutions that address environmental challenges, to discuss the impact of digital technologies on economic, social, and environmental sustainability. A further aim of the event is to encourage greater collaboration between higher education institutions, tech companies, policy-makers, and environmental organisations. The event will be held online and will be structured around the following elements: Keynote speech, Panel discussions, Breakout sessions.

The deadline for submission of abstracts is 20 January 2024. Expressions of interest to attend the event, initially consisting of a 200 words abstract outlining the paper and with the full contact details of the author(s) should be sent to the IUSDRP team at: <https://forms.gle/HjDssrRQ5793p8q37>

4. NEW PUBLICATIONS

Leal Filho, W., Dinis, M. A. P., Nagy, G. J., & Fracassi, U. (2023). On the (melting) rocks: Climate change and the global issue of permafrost depletion. *Science of The Total Environment*, 903, 166615. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2023.166615>.

Vidal, D. G., Dinis, M. A. P., Lambrechts, W., Vasconcelos, C. R., Molthan-Hill, P., Abubakar, I. R., ... & Sharifi, A. (2023). Low carbon futures: assessing the status of decarbonisation efforts at universities within a 2050 perspective. *Energy, Sustainability and Society*, 13(1), 1-17. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13705-023-00384-6>

Hunt, J. D., Nascimento, A., Tong, W., Zakeri, B., Jurasz, J., Patro, E. R., ... & Wada, Y. (2023). Perpetual motion electric truck, transporting cargo with zero fuel costs. *Journal of Energy Storage*, 72, 108671. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.est.2023.108671>

Leal Filho, W., Salvia, A. L., Balogun, A. L., Pereira, M. J. V., Mucova, S. A. R., Ajulo, O. M., ... & Setti, A. F. (2023). Towards more sustainable responses to natural hazards and climate change challenges via transformative adaptation. *Cities*, 141, 104525. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2023.104525>

Santos, J. V. B. D., Sigahi, T. F., Rampasso, I. S., Moraes, G. H. S. M. D., Ávila, L. V., Leal Filho, W., & Anholon, R. (2023). Adoption of competence management practices by industries in an emerging country: an analysis via fuzzy TOPSIS. *Personnel Review*. <https://doi.org/10.1108/PR-05-2023-0399>

Leal Filho, W., Dinis, M. A. P., Lange Salvia, A., Fritzen Gomes, B. M., Vasconcelos, C. R. P. D., & Albrecht, C. F. (2023). Influences of the Covid-19 pandemic on the impact factor of a sample of environment/sustainability-related journals. *International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education*. <https://doi.org/10.1108/IJSHE-08-2022-0283>

Leal Filho, W., Azul, A. M., Doni, F., & Salvia, A. L. (Eds.). (2023). *Handbook of Sustainability Science in the Future: Policies, Technologies and Education by 2050*. Springer Nature.

Leal Filho, W., Dibbern, T., Trevisan, L. V., Cristofaletti, E. C., Dinis, M. A. P., Matandirotya, N., ... & Sanni, M. (2023). Mapping universities-communities partnerships in the delivery of the sustainable development goals. *Frontiers in Environmental Science*, 11, 1-12. <http://dx.doi.org/10.3389/fenvs.2023.1246875>

Leal Filho, W., Lange Salvia, A., Beynaghi, A., Fritzen, B., Ulisses, A., Avila, L. V., ... & Nikolaou, I. (2023). Digital transformation and sustainable development in higher education in a post-pandemic world. *International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology*, 1-16. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13504509.2023.2237933>

Rodrigues, E. A., Rampasso, I. S., Pavan Serafim, M., Filho, W. L., & Anholon, R. (2023). Difficulties experienced by managers in the coordination of teams working from home: An exploratory study considering the COVID-19 pandemic. *Information Technology & People*, 36(5), 1870-1893. <https://doi.org/10.1108/ITP-01-2021-0034>

Barbir, J., Arato, E., Chen, C. Y., Granberg, M., Gutow, L., Krång, A. S., ... & Witt, G. (2023). Assessing ecotoxicity of an innovative bio-based mulch film: a multi-environmental and multi-bioassay approach. *Frontiers in Environmental Science*. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fenvs.2023.1171261>

Leal Filho, W., Brandli, L. L., Dinis, M. A. P., Vidal, D. G., Paço, A., Levesque, V., ... & Pace, P. (2023). International trends on transformative learning for urban sustainability. *Discover Sustainability*, 4(1), 31. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s43621-023-00145-7>

Thank you for your continued support and engagement with the European School of Sustainability Science and Research. Together, let's strive for a sustainable future and make a positive impact on our planet.

Stay tuned for more exciting updates and opportunities in the field of sustainability. Until then, enjoy the Christmas markets and we hope to see you at one of our events!

Regards,
ESSSR Team