

# TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
ON THE ENERGY TRANSITION

CAGLIARI-CARBONIA | 27-29 JANUARY 2026

## FINAL PROGRAMME

ORGANISED BY



WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF



MINISTERO DELL'AMBIENTE  
E DELLA SICUREZZA ENERGETICA



ITALIAN NATIONAL AGENCY FOR  
NEW TECHNOLOGIES, ENERGY AND  
SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



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The **International Conference on the Energy Transition** will bring together global policymakers, researchers, industry leaders, and financiers to accelerate the shift toward a sustainable, low-carbon future. Over three days, the program covers:

**Day 1:** Global climate scenarios, regional energy policies, and strategies for a just and inclusive transition

**Day 2:** Low-carbon technologies, with an emphasis on green hydrogen, innovation, and public-private partnerships

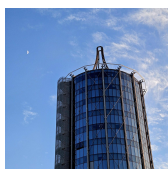
**Day 3:** Workshop –Just Transition:  
The Sardinian Case as a European Model

This global forum will unite policymakers, researchers, industry leaders, financiers, and civil society to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon, sustainable future. The program blends high-level policy discussions, deep dives into breakthrough technologies, and practical financing strategies—focusing on solutions that are just, inclusive, and globally coordinated.

Attendees will engage in an event designed to spark partnerships and create actionable roadmaps for decarbonization.

The Day 3 workshop will be held in Carbonia and there will be a shuttle service from and to Cagliari for all the delegates attending the conference.

## Venues



Cagliari, T Hotel  
January 27–28, 2026



Carbonia, Sotacarbo Research Centre  
January 29, 2026



- Admission is free and reserved to the first 150 registered visitors.
- **To book your place**, please register through this link (limited seats)  
<https://secure.onlinecongress.it/onlinecongress/secure/form.aspx?guid=6549498242170777692087809>
- **Languages:** Italian-English (Simultaneous translation service provided)

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## Day 1 The Energy Transition in the World: Scenarios, Policies & Strategies

Venue: Cagliari, T Hotel

### Morning sessions

8:30-9:15 Registration and welcome coffee

9:15-9:30 Opening remarks

Address by the Conference Chairman

Dr Mario Porcu, CEO, Sotacarbo

9:30-10:00 Plenary Session Global Climate Scenarios & the Urgency of the Transition

Address by the President of the Sardinian Region  
Address by the Italian Ministry of the Environment

Hon. Alessandra Todde  
Hon. Gilberto Pichetto Fratin

10:00-11:20 Session 1 Energy resilience and security – I

Moderator: Dr. Noel Simento, Former Director ANLEC

10:00 World Outlook for the energy transitions  
10:20 The swinging energy transition of the US  
10:40 Asia: Challenges & opportunities in the energy market  
and China's leadership role  
11:00 US and Europe's path towards competitiveness  
and sustainability

Dr. Carl Greenfield, Energy Analyst, IEA  
Dr. Charles Taylor, Energy Analyst, ONE  
Drs. Biqing Yang, Energy Analyst, Ember  
  
Dr. Toby Lockwood, Director of Carbon  
Management Practice, CATF

Coffee break

11:40-13:00 Session 2 Energy resilience and security – II

Moderator: Dr. Charles Taylor, Energy Analyst, Only Natural Energy (ONE)

11:40 Latin America's energy outlook  
  
12:00 Africa: Pathways for clean energy expansion  
  
12:20 Oceania: Net-zero pathways – Australia case study  
12:40 IPCC Climate Change 2025 outlook

Prof. Griselda Lambertini, Director, CEARE,  
University of Buenos Aires  
Dr. Barry MacColl, Snr Regional Manager,  
Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)  
Dr. Noel Simento, Former Director, ANLEC  
Dr. Paolo Bertoldi, Senior Expert, EU  
Commission / IPCC WG III

Lunch break

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## Day 1 The Energy Transition in the World: Scenarios, Policies & Strategies

Venue: Cagliari, T Hotel

### Afternoon sessions

#### 14:00-15:20 Session 3 The Energy Transition in Italy

Moderator: Prof. Lesley Sloss, Macquarie University Sydney

**14:00** The Italian Energy Mix evolution for climate neutrality and energy security

**14:20** Italy: Funding the scale-up of low carbon technologies

**14:40** From research to deployment: technology transfer pathways in the energy transition

**15:00** Power shift: how renewables are reshaping electrical infrastructure

Prof. Franco Cotana, CEO, RSE

Drs. Stefania Crotta, Director General,  
Ministry of the Environment

Prof. Maria Chiara Zanetti, Deputy Rector,  
Territorial, National and European Policies,  
Politecnico di Torino

Prof. Fabrizio Pilo, Deputy Rector, Electrical  
Systems for Energy, University of Cagliari

#### 15:20-16:40 Session 4 Hurdles, Challenges and Opportunities

Moderator: Dr. Barry MacColl, Senior Regional Manager, EPRI

**15:20** Ravenna CCS, the first industrial CCS project in Italy

**15:40** Pumped Storage Hydropower: a decisive complement to the renewable energy revolution

**16:00** Accelerating emission reductions from retiring conventional energy fleets?

**16:20** The public acceptance: an issue or an opportunity?

Dr. Roberto Ferrario, Knowledge Owner  
CCUS, ENI

Prof. Giorgio Querzoli, Department of Civil,  
Environmental, and Architectural Engineering,  
University of Cagliari

Prof. Lesley Sloss, Macquarie University of  
Sydney

Dr. Niall Dunphy, University of Cork

Coffee break

#### 17:00-18:00 Roundtable A Global Transition: Where do we go?

Moderator: Prof. Sergio Garribba, Pillar II-Energy Coordinator, EUSAIR

Prof. Fabrizio Pilo, Deputy Rector, Electrical Systems for Energy, University of Cagliari

Dr. Noel Simento, Former Director, ANLEC

Dr. Carl Greenfield, Energy Analyst, IEA

Prof. Griselda Lambertini, Director, CEARE, University of Buenos Aires

Dr. Biqing Yang, Energy Analyst, Ember

#### 19:45 Pre-dinner reception

#### 20:30 Social dinner

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## Day 2 Low-Carbon Technologies & Green Hydrogen

Venue: Cagliari, T Hotel

### Morning sessions

#### 9:00-10:20 Session 5 Energy resilience and security – I

Moderator: Prof. Michele Mascia, Department of Mechanical, Chemical, and Materials Engineering, University of Cagliari

**9:00** The role of turbomachinery industry in supporting the energy transition

**9:20** Waste-to-X: technical and non-technical challenges of advanced waste gasification

**9:40** Thermochemical recycling of plastic waste

**10:00** Carnot Batteries: Perspectives, Open Challenges, and Ongoing Projects

Dr. Franco Rosatelli, CTO - ENGITEC SpA, Emeritus Member - ETN Global

Prof. Umberto Arena, Environmental Sciences and Technologies, University of Campania

Prof. Tiziano Faravelli, Chemistry, Materials and Chemical Engineering, Politecnico di Milano

Prof. Mario Petrollese, University of Cagliari

Coffee break

#### 10:40-12:40 Session 6 Prospects for Green Hydrogen and its Derivatives

Moderator: Prof. Giorgio Cau, Department of Mechanical, Chemical, and Materials Engineering, University of Cagliari

**10:40** A stronger role for Hydrogen

**11:00** The green hydrogen value chain

**11:20** H<sub>2</sub>O/CO<sub>2</sub> as platform molecules for the energy transition

**11:40** Waste Carbon to Marine Fuel & SAF

**12:00** From Vision to Reality: Three Hydrogen Valley Experiences

**12:20** Current demand and future prospective of hydrogen use in industry

Dr. Giorgio Graditi, General Director, ENEA

Drs. Cristina Maggi, Director, H2IT

Dr. Domenico Ferrero, Department of Energy (DENERG), Politecnico di Torino

Prof. Vinu Ravikrishnan, Chemical Engineering, IITM

Dr. Davide Tomasi, Sustainable Fuels R&D Project Manager, RINA

Dr. Horst Steinmüller, Chairman, WIVA P&G

Lunch break

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## Day 2 Low-Carbon Technologies & Green Hydrogen

Venue: Cagliari, T Hotel

### Afternoon sessions

#### 14:00-15:40 Session 7 Innovation on Green Hydrogen and its Derivatives

Moderator: Dr. Biqing Yang, Energy Analyst, Ember

**14:00** Electrolysis technology

Drs. África Castro Rosende, Director  
of Business Development, H2B2  
Electrolysis Technologies

**14:20** The Sulcis Hydrogen Valley: a unique synergy

Dr. Mario Porcu, CEO, and Dr. Alberto  
Pettinau, Research and Development  
Director, Sotacarbo

**14:40** The Finland way: Hydrogen valley as value chain promoter  
and the ELECTRA project

Dr. Francesco Reda, Research Manager, VTT  
Finland

**15:00** Renewable hydrogen projects overview:  
Germany & Netherlands

Drs. Paola Granados Mendoza, Technology  
Developer - Green Hydrogen, HyCC

**15:20** Transboundary projects: H2Move

Dr. David Campos, Project Manager, H2Move  
project

#### 15:40-17:00 Roundtable From intention to action

Moderator: Dr. Noel Simento, Former Director, ANLEC

Dr. Niall Dunphy, University of Cork

Dr. Cristina Maggi, Director, H2IT

Dr. Barry MacColl, Senior Regional Manager, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)

Prof. Vinu Ravikrishnan, Chemical Engineering, IITM

Dr. Francesco Reda, Research Manager, VTT Finland

Dr. Giorgio Graditi, General Director, ENEA

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## Day 3 Workshop “The Just Transition and Territorial Development - The Sardinian Case as a European Model: The REFUEL Project”

Venue: Carbonia, Sotacarbo Research Centre

**8:30-9:00 Registration and welcome coffee**

**9:00-9:10 Opening remarks**

Address by the Conference Chairman

Dr Mario Porcu, CEO, Sotacarbo

**9:10-10:00 Institutional greetings**

Mayor of Carbonia  
President of Sulcis Iglesiente Provincial Council  
Sardinian Region Councilor for Industry  
Sardinian Region Councilor for Budget and Planning  
President of the Sardinian Region

Dr. Pietro Morittu  
Dr. Mauro Usai  
Hon. Emanuele Cani  
Hon. Giuseppe Meloni  
Hon. Alessandra Todde

**10:00-11:20 Session 8 JTF Strategic Operation in Sardinia: the REFUEL Project**

**10:00** Why Strategic Operations are key to the JTF's success

Dr. Raffaele Parlangei, JTF NP IT 21-27  
National Managing Authority,  
Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri  
Dr. Marcello Capra, MASE

**10:20** The much-needed synergy between JTF  
and Italia's energy strategy

**10:40** The REFUEL project within the regional planning

Dr. Fabio Tore, Sardinia Regional Planning  
Centre, Intermediate Body JTF PT Sulcis  
Dr. Alberto Pettinau, Sotacarbo

**11:00** The REFUEL Project: a new value chain in motion

*Coffee break*

**11:40-13:00 Session 9 From Coal to Green Hydrogen, towards a sustainable future:  
the REFUEL project and other JTF best practices**

**11:40** The Coal Heritage & GreenJOBS Projects:  
EU RFCS in Post-Mining

**12:00** The H2-HUB project

**12:20** Refuelling Carbonia's Renewable Energy Community

**12:40** How to repurpose skills and professions  
in Ukraine's coal communities

Dr. Julia Haske, M.A., Research Center  
of Post-Mining  
Dr. Agapi Teftiki, CERTH  
Dr. Giuseppe Girardi, Sotacarbo  
Dr. Andriy Tabinsky, ACCU

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## Day 3 Workshop “The Just Transition and Territorial Development - The Sardinian Case as a European Model: The REFUEL Project”

Venue: Carbonia, Sotacarbo Research Centre

### 13:00-13:40 Session 10 The Energy Transition in Italy

**13:00** Decarbonisation project through  
an environmental justice lens

Dr. Niall Dunphy, University of Cork

**13:20** Insights from the Just Transition Fund in Europe:  
Opportunities, Challenges, and Policy

Dr. Balbina Gluza-Czyczerska, Manager of  
Just Transition Platform, European  
Commission, DG for Regional & Urban Policy

### 13:40-13:50 Conclusions

*Lunch break*

### 14:50-15:50 Visit of Sotacarbo Research Centre plants and labs

**End of the conference**

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