

# 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

Hon. Alessandra Todde

Address by the Italian Ministry of the Environment

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

Dr. Carl Greenfield, Energy Analyst, IEA

10:20 The swinging energy transition of the US

Dr. Charles Taylor, Energy Analyst, ONE

10:40 Asia: Challenges & opportunities in the energy market and China's leadership role

Drs. Biqing Yang, Energy Analyst, Ember

11:00 US and Europe's path towards competitiveness and sustainability

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

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

12:00 Africa: Pathways for clean energy expansion

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

12:20 Oceania: Net-zero pathways – Australia case study

Dr. Noel Simento, Former Director, ANLEC

12:40 IPCC Climate Change 2025 outlook

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

Prof. Franco Cotana, CEO, RSE

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

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

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

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

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

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

Dr. Roberto Ferrario, Knowledge Owner CCUS, ENI

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

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

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

Prof. Lesley Sloss, Macquarie University of Sydney

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

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. Binqing 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Dr. Giorgio Graditi, General Director, ENEA

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

Drs. Cristina Maggi, Director, H2IT

**11:20** H2O/CO2 as platform molecules for the energy transition

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

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

Prof. Vinu Ravikrishnan, Chemical Engineering, IITM

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

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

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

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. Binqing 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 Pettinai, 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

Dr. Pietro Morittu

President of Sulcis Iglesiente Provincial Council

Dr. Mauro Usai

Sardinian Region Councilor for Industry

Hon. Emanuele Cani

Sardinian Region Councilor for Budget and Planning

Hon. Giuseppe Meloni

President of the Sardinian Region

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 Parlangeli, 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

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

Dr. Alberto Pettinai, Sotacarbo

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:

Dr. Julia Haske, M.A., Research Center

EU RFCS in Post-Mining

of Post-Mining

12:00 The H2-HUB project

Dr. Agapi Tefiki, CERTH

12:20 Refuelling Carbonia's Renewable Energy Community

Dr. Giuseppe Girardi, Sotacarbo

12:40 How to repurpose skills and professions

Dr. Andriy Tabinskyy, ACCU

in Ukraine's coal communities

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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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