

TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON THE ENERGY TRANSITION

CAGLIARI-CARBONIA | 27-29 JANUARY 2026

FINAL PROGRAMME

ORGANISED BY

SOTACARBO

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY
RESEARCH CENTRE



WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF



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



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI
DI CAGLIARI



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

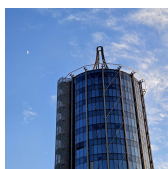
Day 3: Workshop –Just Transition:
The Sardinian Case as a European Model

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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E DELLA SICUREZZA ENERGETICA



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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** Research and Innovation to support the Green Hydrogen Value Chain
- 11:00** The Role of Hydrogen in the Future Energy Landscape
- 11:20** H₂O/CO₂ 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. Alberto Giaconia, Head of Hydrogen and
New Energy Vectors Laboratory, ENEA
Prof. Michele Mascia, Department of
Mechanical, Chemical, and Materials
Engineering, University of Cagliari
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. Barry MacColl, Senior Regional Manager, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)

Prof. Vinu Ravikrishnan, Chemical Engineering, IITM

Dr. Francesco Reda, Research Manager, VTT Finland

Dr. Alberto Giaconia, Head of Hydrogen and New Energy Vectors Laboratory, ENEA

Prof. Sergio Garribba, Pillar II-Energy Coordinator, Eusair

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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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