

Forum for Sustainable AI

Ministry of Ecological Transition, Hôtel de Roquelaure
February 11th → 9h00 - 17h30

Tentative Agenda for the Plenary Room

- 08:30 Arrival and Registration
- 09:00 High-level introductions by Ministers and government representatives:
Sharing a vision for Sustainable AI



Agnès Pannier-Runacher,
French Minister in charge of
Environment

SESSION ON AI INFRASTRUCTURE

- 09:30 Opening Keynote: **AI Policymaking for a Sustainable Future**



Sarah Myers West
Co-Executive Director
AI Now Institute

09:45

Round table 1: Towards sustainable AI infrastructure: no way around

The rapid deployment of artificial intelligence technology, especially large language models, entails growing needs, especially in terms of energy, water, and material resources. This round table will present an overview of the historic trends in data centers electricity consumption and how the raise of AI is a trend breaker, how in such context, a holistic approach to the environmental impacts of data centers is needed and what are solutions put in place to foster more sustainable AI infrastructure.



Dr. Anna Christmann
German Commissioner
Federal Ministry for Economic
Affairs and Climate Action



Peter Michelson
CEO
EcoDataCenter



Josh Parker
Head of Sustainability
Nvidia



Anne-Laure Ligozat
Computer science Professor
ENSIIE & LISN



Tim Gould
Chief Energy Economist
International Energy Agency

10:40

Presentation: Key challenges for the environmental performance of AI

In the months leading up to the AI Action Summit, several stakeholders were able to contribute to a major position paper on the key challenges to fostering the environmental performance of AI. This session will provide an overview of the key challenges identified and allow participants to vote on the challenges they identify as priority.



Bruno Sportisse
Director
INRIA



Emmanuel Leroux
Head Eviden
BDS

11:00

Coffee break

SESSION ON AI USES

11:25

Round table 2: Creating cute cats or fighting forest fires: what are we using AI for?

One of the biggest surprises of the Internet revolution, for one of its inventor Tim Berners-Lee, was the significant part of Internet bandwidth used for watching videos of cute cats. With generative AI, we are close to experiencing a tsunami of AI generated-content. From optimizing mundane activities to solving society's most pressing challenges, are we truly leveraging AI for meaningful progress, or are we caught up in its entertainment value, like perfecting cat memes? As AI announces itself as the next digital revolution - similar to the Internet - this round table will provide an opportunity to consider which uses of AI will be priorities in the future, and how we can ensure that environmentally beneficial uses are at the top of the list.



Antonia Gawel
Global Director of Sustainability
& Partnerships
Google



Gregory D. Dimitriadis
CEO
Growthfund National Fund of
Greece



David Rolnick
Co-Founder of Climate Change AI
Assistant Professor
McGill University



Gabriela Ramos
Assistant Director-General for
Social and Human Sciences
UNESCO

12:10 Pitch of demonstrations

12:25 Lunch with demonstrations

13:50 **Keynote: AI & Environment: opportunities for global cooperation**



Sally Radwan
Chief Digital Officer
UNEP

14:10 **Presentation: AI and Information Integrity on Climate Change**

With disinformation and climate change topping the list of global risks in 2024, and the COP 30 in Belém on the horizon, the Brazilian Presidency of the G20 put the intersection of these issues at the forefront of the agenda during its presidency. This led to the establishment of this Global Initiative at the G20 Leaders Summit in Rio in November. The session will discuss how to further address disinformation on climate change with the advancement of Artificial Intelligence and how AI tools can be used to address and counter disinformation and promote information integrity on climate change. It will also debate how to address the adverse impact the development of AI can have on the environment given the extensive energy consumption it requires.



Melissa Fleming
Under-Secretary-General
Global Communications
United Nations



Tawfik Jelassi
Assistant Director General for
communication and information
UNESCO



João Brant
Secretary of Digital Policies
Secretariat of Social
Communication of the Brazilian
Presidency



Camille Grenier
Executive Director
Forum on Information and
Democracy

SESSION ON AI MODELS

14:50

Round Table 3: **Model with a mission: How to ensure AI is shared equally for a sustainable future?**

AI has the potential to accelerate our environmental transition, but if not distributed equitably, it risks deepening the divide between countries. How can we ensure that AI is shared more equally to drive green growth and enhance environmental protection globally? This round table will tackle several topics: how do we optimize the resource consumption of AI models to improve access to AI capacities? How do we incentivize companies and data scientists to adopt best practices for frugal AI? And finally, how do we use quantitative datasets to develop an AI that genuinely supports the ecological transition and green growth for all nations?



Paula Ingabire
Minister for Information and
Communication Technologies
Rwanda



Gaurav Godhwani
Director
CivicDataLab



Sang-Hyup Kim
Director General
Global Green Growth Institute



Christine Zhenwei Qiang
Global Director
Digital Transformation
World Bank Group



Jerry Sheehan
Director of the OECD
Directorate for Science,
Technology and Innovation

15:35

Coffee break

15:55

Keynote: **The AI Compass: Guiding technology towards a more sustainable future**

While performance is most often the only indicator for training and inference of AI models nowadays, what if energy efficiency also became a key indicator? This session will review the existing tools for measuring energy efficiency, the strategies for optimizing it and the energy gains it allows.



Sasha Luccioni
AI & Sustainability Lead
Hugging Face

16:10

Pitch Frugal AI Challenge winners



Théo Alves Da Costa
Founder
Data for Good



Sasha Luccioni
AI & Sustainability Lead
Hugging Face

16:25

Discussion: The importance of standardization for the measurement and mitigation of the environmental impact of Artificial Intelligence

To allow for real advances in the environmental efficiency of AI, a really important challenge is to be able to measure the environmental impact of an AI model. However, this is not such an easy task as the boundary of what constitutes an AI model and what the key indicators are are not easily defined. This session will present the roadmap of standardization experts for addressing the measurement and mitigation of the environmental impacts of AI.



Frederic Werner
Head, Strategic Engagement;
Chief of Strategy and Operations
ITU / AI for Good



Alpesh Shah
Managing Director
IEEE Standards Association

17:00

Conclusion: What is there to remember from this event?



Lynn Kaack
Assistant Professor of Computer Science and Public Policy
Hertie School

17:15

Conclusion: Next steps for environmentally sustainable AI



Brice Huet
General Commissioner for Sustainable Development
France

17:30

Cocktail