

Futures Conference 2026

Sustainability, Temporalities and Futures

9–10 JUNE 2026 | University of Turku, Finland

CALL FOR PAPERS & WORKSHOPS

**Abstract submission deadline
2 February 2026**

Notification of acceptance 6 March 2026

Futures Conference 2026 focuses on the critical theme of the sustainability transformation. This fundamental shift will renew societal and economic systems and practices, while also enhances human agency, well-being and quality of life. The conference explores sustainability transformation through various themes, like everyday life and cultural transformation; planetary well-being and health; sustainable production and consumption; technological transformation; governance, justice, trust, and institutional transformations in public administration, politics, and business; and the role of humans, culture, and collective efforts in building a just and sustainable society.

The conference emphasises the importance of temporality by asking what intergenerational decision-making within the limits of planetary boundaries means in practice. How can geological time perspectives, historical understanding, and futures thinking guide individuals, societies, and humankind towards more sustainable outcomes? How does various individual and collective memories and anticipations impact on unfolding futures and planetary wellbeing?

Sustainability and temporality can be approached through a multidisciplinary lens, particularly emphasising futures studies, social sciences, humanities, heritage studies, the arts, natural sciences, sustainability science, and business studies. Bridging different fields in an interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach is essential for advancing sustainability transformation. Achieving this in the conference, demands the active and intersectional inclusion of different socio-cultural and more-than-human perspectives through participation of decision-makers, researchers, practitioners, and students.

The Futures Conference 2026 focuses on the following questions and beyond:

- What perspectives are related to the fair and just implementation of sustainability transformation in society?
- How can we link long-term thinking with short-term practices to facilitate sustainability transformation in everyday life and decision making?
- What inspiring ways can we imagine sustainable futures?
- What do the ethical aspects of temporalities and sustainability mean in theory and practice?
- What significance and potential does culture have as a driver of sustainability transformation?
- What are the roles of art and different knowledge systems in sustainability transformation?
- How can decision-making and business practices be developed to better recognise and mitigate climate change, biodiversity loss, and the overconsumption of natural resources?
- How can alternative economic models – such as postgrowth or feminist economics – support sustainability transformation?
- What weak signals and wild cards can be detected in the sustainability transformation?

SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

We invite researchers, scholars, practitioners, decision-makers and students from universities, research institutes, companies, and governmental and non-governmental organisations to share the latest research results, findings and thoughts on these key topics:

1. Beyond Sustainability – Regeneration and restoration
2. Cultural sustainability transformation as an enabler of just sustainability transformation
3. Human and more-than-human agency toward planetary well-being and health
4. Individual and collective understandings of time and temporalities in sustainability transformation
5. Sustainable production and consumption in the light of different economic models
6. Justice, trust and sustainability in institutional transformations of governance and working life in public administration, politics, and business
7. Leadership, governance, and the management of short-term and long-term sustainability transformations
8. The role of AI in sustainability
9. Methods and methodology of futures research and sustainability transformation

Submit your abstract (max. 400 words) for a) paper presentation, b) special session or c) interactive workshop via conference website:

futuresconference2026.com