

## **Open Innovation and Sustainable Development Goals**

Innovation activities are viewed as a critical component in progressing on the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Many of the SDGs are so called "wicked problems" and require holistic approaches when working towards both long- and short-term goals. An increasing number of firms are involved in tackling the SDGs, such as achieving Net Zero targets, or playing an active role in decarbonisation efforts. These activities often require innovation strategies (sometimes referred to as sustainable innovation). Effective knowledge creation and creative thinking required for innovation does not occur in isolation, rather is a collaborative process. The open innovation paradigm states that firms should not only rely on internal ideas in the innovation process, but also make use of external ideas and external paths to market, as this can be combined with their internal idea to advance their technological capabilities.

This lecture will describe the process of open innovation, the importance of collaborative networks for open innovation, and will critically discuss how this can contribute to progressing the SDGs. The lecture will focus on a particular set of SDGs, including SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

## Dr Yasaman (Yasi) Sarabi

Assistant Professor in Social Research Methods at School of Social Sciences, Heriot-Watt University.

She is with expertise in the application of cutting-edge Social Network Analysis methods. Her applied work is focused on inter-organisational and corporate networks, International Business Studies, and Quantitative Research Methods. She has published work on the organisation of production in World Economy and Social Networks. Her research in interorganisational collaboration networks has been published in Research Evaluation and Network Science. She also has several publications on the study of gender diversity in the corporate setting.







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Academy of

International Business

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This two-hour virtual MIIB lecture (via Zoom) will include interactive discussions designed for international student audience to work together to explore solutions to a global challenge. Upon successful completion of the lecture, participants will receive attendance certificates from the Teaching & Education SIG of the Academy of international Business.





Places are limited, so click <u>HERE</u> to register!



TEACHING & EDUCATION Shared Interest Group