



Leading with Purpose:

Sustainable Practices for a Resilient Future

- Resilient Enterprises – Leading for Long-Term Success
- Expanding the Frontiers of Progress
- Governance for Global Progress



Middlesex University Mauritius,
Coastal Road,
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1-2 September 2025



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Prof. Mari Jansen Van Rensburg
Pro Vice-Chancellor, Middlesex University
Director, Middlesex University Mauritius



Prof. Divya Singh
Chief Academic Officer
Senior Research Academic
STADIO Higher Education

Following the success of its inaugural event, ShiftXchange returns in 2025 with its second edition - bigger, bolder, and more deeply focused on the evolving role of leadership in a rapidly changing world.

This year's theme, **"Leading with Purpose: Sustainable Practices for a Resilient Future,"** places renewed emphasis on the urgent need to exchange knowledge and proven practices that empower stronger, more responsible leadership. In an era where technology influences nearly every aspect of society, today's leaders must be equipped to integrate ethical, economic, environmental, and digital considerations into their strategic decision-making.

ShiftXchange 2025 is designed to provide both current and emerging leaders with the insights, tools, and strategies needed to build resilient organisations that support long-term economic growth, environmental stewardship, and social equity. The conference aligns closely with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), reinforcing the global imperative for leadership that is not only visionary but also deeply accountable.

Delegates will engage in a dynamic programme of thought-provoking keynote addresses, expert panel discussions, and interactive dialogues, while also benefiting from valuable opportunities for networking and collaboration with peers from diverse industries and sectors.

This second edition of ShiftXchange is more than just a conference, it is a global platform for transformation. It brings together professionals, educators, innovators, and changemakers to share ideas and shape the future of leadership in an increasingly complex and interconnected world.

Join us on this transformative journey, where leadership meets responsibility, and innovation drives lasting impact.



Themes, Topics, and Focus Areas:

- Sustainable Business Leadership
- Purpose-Driven Innovation
- Building Strategic Partnerships
- Innovative Leadership for the Future
- Restoring Balance: Leadership Approaches to Address Global Challenges
- Circular Thinking and Beyond
- Policy Leadership for Impact
- International Collaboration for a Thriving Future
- Adaptive Governance

The scope of themes extends beyond those listed above. Discussions focusing on sustainability and other relevant areas are strongly encouraged and welcomed.



Conference Objectives:

- Encourage inclusive collaboration and meaningful dialogue across diverse perspectives to share knowledge, experiences, and forward-thinking strategies.
- Inspire action and innovation to cultivate sustainable leadership practices that foster long-term resilience and adaptability.
- Promote insight into the ethical responsibilities and transformative potential of leaders in addressing sustainability challenges and shaping a resilient, equitable future.



Who Should Attend:

- Business Leaders & Corporate Executives
- Entrepreneurs
- Policymakers and Government Officials
- Sustainability Professionals
- Environmental Scientists
- Start-up Enthusiasts
- NGO Representatives
- Financial Sector Leaders

Sponsorship



This platinum sponsorship opportunity provides prominent branding and recognition as a premier event sponsor. The sponsor's logo will be prominently displayed on event materials, the website, and signage, ensuring widespread visibility. Your contributions will be acknowledged during both the opening and closing ceremonies. Additionally, platinum sponsors secure exhibition space and VIP networking opportunities. Platinum sponsors will receive two delegate registrations, enabling full participation in all event activities. Notably, platinum sponsors have the unique privilege of a speaking opportunity during the conference dinner, enhancing their presence and influence at the event.

The cost of becoming a platinum sponsor starts from MUR 150,000.



Gold sponsorship opportunities provide a mid-tier level of branding and recognition, positioning sponsors as significant contributors to the event's success. Sponsors will enjoy prominent logo placement on event materials, the website, and signage, ensuring substantial visibility. You will secure exhibition space and exclusive networking opportunities. Two delegate registrations are included, allowing full participation in all event activities.

The cost of becoming a gold sponsor starts from MUR 100,000.



Silver sponsorship opportunities offer various avenues to showcase your brand to a diverse audience of attendees. These include options such as sponsoring best paper awards, providing branded merchandise for participants' conference bags, or offering financial or in-kind support for the conference dinner or other events. You will receive exhibition space and opportunities to network. Silver sponsors also benefit from two delegate registrations, allowing full participation in all event activities.

The cost of becoming a silver sponsor starts from MUR 25,000.

08:00 – 9:00	REGISTRATION
9:00 – 9:30 Lecture Theatre CG02	ENERGIZER & WELCOME ADDRESS Welcome Address Prof. Divya Singh Chief Academic Officer STADIO, HE
9:30- 10:15 Lecture Theatre CG02	KEYNOTE: The Big Picture Vanessa Doger de Spéville Head of Sustainability, Reputation & Engagement Mauritius Commercial Bank
10:15 - 11:00 Lecture Theatre CG02	PANEL DEBATE: The Great Divide - Vanessa Doger de Spéville - Pieter Geldenhuys - Sanjay Matadeen - Facilitator: Prof Divya Singh
11:00 – 11:30	COFFEE BREAK & NETWORKING SPRINT Speed-Networking Challenge: Meet Three New People and Discover their Research Focus
11:30- 13:00 EG01/02/03	PARALLEL SESSION 1 EG01 - Track 1: Resilient Enterprises – Leading for Long-Term Success EG02 - Track 2: Expanding the Frontiers of Progress EG03 - Track 3: Governance for Global Progress
13:00 – 14:00	WORKING LUNCH & POSTER WALKABOUT
14:00 – 15:00 Lecture Theatre CG02	KEYNOTE: Create the future Pieter Geldenhuys Futurist and expert in Innovation and Technology Strategy Founder and Director of the Institute for Technology Strategy and Innovation (ITSI)
15:00 – 16:30 EG01/02/03	PARALLEL SESSION 2 EG01 - Track 1: Resilient Enterprises – Leading for Long-Term Success EG02 - Track 2: Expanding the Frontiers of Progress EG03 - Track 3: Governance for Global Progress
16:30	QUICK TEA & INTERACTIVE POLLS
18:00	OPENING RECEPTION

9:00 – 9:30

Lecture Theatre CG02

Day 1 RECAP

Prof. Flip Schutte

9:30- 10:15

Lecture Theatre CG02

KEYNOTE: A Call to Action

Sylvain Meyepa

Director, Mauritius Tourism Authority

10:15- 11:45

EG01/02/03

PARALLEL SESSION 3

EG01 - Track 1: Resilient Enterprises – Leading for Long-Term Success

EG02 - Track 2: Expanding the Frontiers of Progress

EG03 - Track 3: Governance for Global Progress

11:45 – 12:30

COFFEE BREAK & MINI-EXHIBIT SHOWCASE

Featuring industry partners, sponsors, etc.

12:30 – 13:00

OPEN MIC: Research on the Spot

Prof. Flip Schutte:

Rethinking Doctoral Education in the Age of AI: Safeguarding Authenticity and Specialist Expertise

Dr. Truida Oosthuizen:

Rethinking Higher Education in a BANI World: The Need for Flexible and Stakeholder-Driven Curriculum Structures

Dr. Elricke Botha:

Education on Sustainable Lifestyles Using a Board Game: A Sustainable Tourism Perspective

13:00 – 14:00

WORKING LUNCH

14:00 – 15:00

Lecture Theatre CG02

KEYNOTE: The call to action

Dr Morne Mostert

International executive advisor on #leadership #strategy and #strategic foresight.

Creator of the Mindset Index

Commissioner of the National Planning Commission in SA

Former Director of the Institute for Futures Research at Stellenbosch University

15:00 – 15:30

Lecture Theatre CG02

PLENARY: Closing Keynote

Reflections on Conference Outcomes and Key Takeaways

Prof. Mari Jansen van Rensburg

Pro Vice-Chancellor, Middlesex University

Director, Middlesex University Mauritius

17:00

EXCURSION AND DINNER ON THE BEACH

PARALLEL SESSION 1
Monday, 1 September 2025 | 11:30 – 13:00

Track 1 Resilient Enterprises – Leading for Long-Term Success EG01	11:30 – 11:50	From Green to Grey: How Law Enables Purpose Regression Theshaya Naidoo (UKZN) theshaya1826@gmail.com
	12:00 – 12:20	The Role of Mediators in the Impact of Customer Relationship Management Practices on Tourist Loyalty to Mauritius: A Mixed-Methods Approach Dr. Vishal Jaunky and Sanjay Matadeen (Ministry of Education, Middlesex University Mauritius) vishaljaunky@gmail.com s.matadeen@mdx.ac.mu
	12:30 – 12:50 Online Presentation	Alternative Funding Sources for the South African Automotive Industry Dr. Martin Mboweni (STADIO HE) MartinM@stadio.ac.za
Track 2 Expanding the Frontiers Of Progress EG02	11:30 – 11:50	Is GenAI the Catalyst for Institutional Agility? Rethinking Academic Workflows Beyond Productivity and Towards Purpose Olivia Wilson (STADIO HE) oliviaw@stadio.ac.za
	12:00 – 12:20	Role of Technological Innovation Capabilities on the Competitiveness of Listed Small Businesses in Sub-Saharan Africa Dr. Timilehin Olubiyi (West Midlands Open University, Lagos, Nigeria) timi.olubiyi@westmidlands.university
	12:30 – 12:50 Online Presentation	Transformative Leadership in Creative Higher Education: Building Resilient Arts and Design Schools Through Visionary Governance and Distributed Leadership Dr. Willem Bouwer (STADIO HE) drwillbouwer@gmail.com
Track 3 Governance for Global Progress EG03	11:30 – 11:50	Futuristic Policing for Wildlife Protection: Leveraging Governance for Global Progress in Preventing Turtle Wildlife Crime Jeanette Smit and Dr. Phillip Vuma (STADIO HE) jeanettes@stadio.ac.za PhilipV@stadio.ac.za
	12:00 – 12:20	Leading with Purpose: Sustainable Practices for a Resilient Future in the World of Finance Irfaan Oodally (Middlesex University Mauritius) i.oodally@mdx.ac.mu
	12:30 – 12:50	Bridging the Gap: Adaptive Governance and ESG Integration Anri Lock (STADIO HE) anril@stadio.ac.za

PARALLEL SESSION 2
Monday, 2 September 2025 | 15:00 – 16:30

Track 1 Resilient Enterprises – Leading for Long-Term Success EG01	15:00 – 15:20	The University of the Future: Views from Academic Leaders Prof. Annemarie Davis (UNISA) davisa@unisa.ac.za
	15:30 – 15:50	Panel Supervision for Doctoral Students: A Purpose-Driven Innovation Bridging Academia and Industry for Lasting Impact Prof. Flip Schutte (STADIO HE) flips@stadio.ac.za
	16:00 – 16:20	
Track 2 Expanding the Frontiers Of Progress EG02	15:00 – 15:20	Human-Centred AI Literacy: Rethinking Experiential Education for Sustainable Digital Futures Charles Wiggill (STADIO HE) charliw@stadio.ac.za
	15:30 – 15:50	Leadership Parallels Between Braveheart's Captain Kenau of Haarlem and Public Prosecutor Madonsela of South Africa: Two Role Models of Resistance and Justice Dr. Christo Swart (STADIO HE) ChristoS@stadio.ac.za
	16:00 – 16:20	The Resilient Remix: Redesigning Leadership Systems with Circular Thinking and Regenerative Purpose Dr. Aameena Ahamed (SSR Medical College, Qualityedge-Consulting) ahamedameena@gmail.com
Track 3 Governance for Global Progress EG03	15:00 – 15:20	A Framework for Strategic International and Cross-sector Partnership in Higher Education Dr. Vanessa Grootboom (STADIO HE) VanessaG@stadio.ac.za
	15:30 – 15:50	Embedding Education for Sustainable Development in Transnational Education Dr. Shaheen Motala-Timol, Dr. Tasneem Mustun, Dr. Phil Barter (Middlesex University Mauritius) p.barter@mdx.ac.mu
	16:00 – 16:20	Leadership for a Sustainable Tomorrow: Reimagining Chartered Accountancy Education in South Africa Judith Terblanche and Marilize Putter (Milpark Education, South Africa) judith.terblanche@milpark.ac.za marilize.putter@milpark.ac.za
Track 4 Expanding the Frontiers Sustainably	15:00 – 15:20	Analysing the Crisis in Leadership for People and Planet: Leveraging the Sustainable Developing Goals (SDGs) for Gaia Krishnee Adnarain Appadoo, Shabbir Esmael, Madvisharan Conhye, Bhoomika Jaggeshar, and Jeevesh Augnoo (Climate Justice Compact) ka.appadoo@uom.ac.mu
	15:30 – 15:50 Online Presentation	Is Creating Awareness Enough? Business and Leadership Sustainability Needs Action Dr. Antje Hargarter (STADIO HE) antjeh@stadio.ac.za
	16:00 – 16:20	

PARALLEL SESSION 3
Tuesday, 2 September 2025 | 10:15 – 11:45

Track 1
Resilient Enterprises – Leading for Long-Term Success
 EG01

10:15 – 10:35

Evaluating the Impact of Celebrity Endorsements on Brand Perception: A Case Study of STADIO Higher Education

Simangaliso Zulu (STADIO HE)

Bayabongazulu@gmail.com

Simangalisoz@stadio.ac.za

10:45 – 11:05

Navigating the F.R.A.G.I.L.E. World: Purposeful Leadership for a Resilient Future

Prof. Nico Schutte (UWC), Marius Pretorius (TDCI), Prof. Nicolene Schutte (UFS)

nschutte@uwc.ac.za

barkhuizenEN@ufs.ac.za

marius@tdci.co.za

11:15 – 11:35

Sustainable Higher Education: From Ivory Tower to Responsive Leadership

Prof. Divya Singh and Diandri Ehlers (STADIO HE)

divyas@stadio.co.za

Track 2
Expanding the Frontiers Sustainably
 EG02

10:15 – 10:35

AI-Driven Transformation: The Role of Digitally Skilled Leaders in Navigating Technological Change

Dr. Shilpa Joshi, Dr Harshita Kumar and Amrita Mathews

(Universal AI University, Mumbai, India)

Shilpa.joshi@universalai.in

Harshita.kumar@universalai.in

amrita.mathews@universalai.in

10:45 – 11:05

Balancing Act of Natural Resource Management Against Community Business Aspirations within Forestry Land Reform Ecosystem - Systematic Literature Review

Jim Matsho (STADIO HE)

jim_matsho@yahoo.com

11:15 – 11:35

Towards a Professional Doctorate for Africa's Sustainability Future: The Vision Behind the DCOM in Sustainability Sciences

Dr. Karen Stander (UNISA)

standk@unisa.ac.za

Track 3
Governance for Global Progress
 EG03

10:15 – 10:35

Online

Presentation

A Collaborative Leadership Framework for a Federated NPO

Mpho Masondo and Dr. Derek Verrier (STADIO HE)

mphoroberta@gmail.com

10:45 – 11:05

Financial Analysis of Ocado Group Plc Risk, Capital Structure and Payout Policy

Dr. Vani Sarada (Kristujayanti College) , Dr. Vishal C. Jaunky (Middlesex University Mauritius) and Dr. Sanjay Matadeen (Middlesex University Mauritius)

sarada889@yahoo.in

vanisarada@kristujayanti.com

11:15 – 11:35

Forging Resilience: A Qualitative Study on How Business Schools Prepare Leaders for an Uncertain Future

Prof. Nicolene Schutte (UFS) and Prof. Nico Schutte (UWC)

nschutte@uwc.ac.za

barkhuizenEN@ufs.ac.za

Track 4
Leading for Long-Term Success

10:15 – 10:35

Leadership Lessons from Captain Kenau of Haarlem: A Historical Perspective

Dr. Christo Swart (STADIO HE)

ChristoS@stadio.ac.za

10:45 – 11:05

11:15 – 11:35

Fostering Resilient Learners in the AI Era: Preliminary Findings from a Constructively Aligned Pedagogical Intervention

Guffran Rostom & Dr. Ashley Hoolash (Middlesex University Mauritius)

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