



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 <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Vanessa Doger de Spéville- Pieter Geldenhuys- Sanjay Matadeen- Dr. Carike Noeth- 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 HEG01, HEG02, HEG03	PARALLEL SESSION 1 HEG01 - Track 1: Resilient Enterprises – Leading for Long-Term Success HEG02 - Track 2: Expanding the Frontiers of Progress HEG03 - 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 HEG01, HEG02, HEG03	PARALLEL SESSION 2 HEG01 - Track 1: Resilient Enterprises – Leading for Long-Term Success HEG02 - Track 2: Expanding the Frontiers of Progress HEG03 - 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

HEG01, HEG02, HEG03

PARALLEL SESSION 3

HEG01 - Track 1: Resilient Enterprises – Leading for Long-Term Success

HEG02 - Track 2: Expanding the Frontiers of Progress

HEG03 - 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

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

DINNER ON THE BEACH

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

Track 1
Resilient Enterprises – Leading for Long-Term Success
 HEG01

Facilitator:
 Prof Annemarie Davis

11:30 – 11:50

12:00 – 12:20

12:30 – 12:50
 Online
 Presentation

Track 2
Expanding the Frontiers of Progress
 HEG02

Facilitator:
 Dr Aameena Ahamed

11:30 – 11:50

12:00 – 12:20
 Online
 Presentation

12:30 – 12:50
 Online
 Presentation

Track 3
Governance for Global Progress
 HEG03

Facilitator:
 Dr Phil Barter

11:30 – 11:50

12:00 – 12:20

12:30 – 12:50

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

Guffran Rostom & Ashley Hoolash (Middlesex University Mauritius)
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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)
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Alternative Funding Sources for the South African Automotive Industry

Dr. Martin Mboweni (STADIO HE)
MartinM@stadio.ac.za

Is GenAI the Catalyst for Institutional Agility? Rethinking Academic Workflows Beyond Productivity and Towards Purpose

Olivia Wilson (STADIO HE)
oliviaw@stadio.ac.za

Is creating awareness enough? Leadership Sustainability needs action

Dr. Antje Hargarter (STADIO HE)
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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

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

Leading with Purpose: Sustainable Practices for a Resilient Future in the World of Finance

Irfaan Oodally (Middlesex University Mauritius)
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Bridging the Gap: Adaptive Governance and ESG Integration

Anri Lock (STADIO HE)
anril@stadio.ac.za

PARALLEL SESSION 2
Monday, 1 September 2025 | 15:00 – 16:30

Track 1 15:00 – 15:20
Resilient Enterprises – Leading for Long-Term Success
 HEG01

Facilitator:
 Prof Divya Singh

15:30 – 15:50

16:00 – 16:20

The University of the Future: Views from Academic Leaders
 Prof. Annemarie Davis (UNISA)
davisa@unisa.ac.za

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

Education on sustainable lifestyles using a board game: a sustainable tourism perspective
 Dr. Elricke Botha (UNISA)
vlogge@unisa.ac.za

Track 2 15:00 – 15:20
Expanding the Frontiers of Progress
 HEG02

Facilitator:
 Ms Jeanette Smit

15:30 – 15:50

16:00 – 16:20

Human-Centred AI Literacy: Rethinking Experiential Education for Sustainable Digital Futures
 Charles Wiggill (STADIO HE)
charliw@stadio.ac.za

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

Analysing the Crisis in Leadership for People and Planet: Leveraging the Sustainable Developing Goals (SDGs) for Gaia
 Krishnee Adnarain Appadoo, S. Esmael, M. Conhye, B. Jaggeshar and J. Augnoo (Climate Justice Compact)
ka.appadoo@uom.ac.mu

Track 3 15:00 – 15:20
Governance for Global Progress
 HEG03

Facilitator:
 Prof Nicolene Schutte

15:30 – 15:50

16:00 – 16:20

A Framework for Strategic International and Cross-sector Partnership in Higher Education
 Dr. Vanessa Grootboom (STADIO HE)
VanessaG@stadio.ac.za

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

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

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

Track 1
Resilient Enterprises – Leading for Long-Term Success
 HEG01

Facilitator:
 Ms Marlize Putter

10:15 – 10:35

10:45 – 11:05

11:15 – 11:35

Track 2
Expanding the frontiers of progress
 HEG02

Facilitator:
 Dr Elricke Botha

10:45 – 11:05

Online
 Presentation

11:15 – 11:35

Track 3
Governance for Global Progress
 HEG03

Facilitator:
 Dr Phillip Vuma

10:15 – 10:35

Online
 Presentation

10:45 – 11:05

11:15 – 11:35

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

Simangaliso Zulu (STADIO HE)

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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)

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Sustainable Higher Education: From Ivory Tower to Responsive Leadership

Prof. Divya Singh and Diandri Ehlers (STADIO HE)

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Leadership Lessons from Captain Kenau of Haarlem: A Historical Perspective

Dr. Christo Swart (STADIO HE)

ChristoS@stadio.ac.za

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

Shaping resilient students: Exploring how a university community can support student mental health

Anju Ajodah (Middlesex University Mauritius)

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A Collaborative Leadership Framework for a Federated NPO

Mpho Masondo and Dr. Derek Verrier (STADIO HE)

mphoroberta@gmail.com

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

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

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vanisarada@kristujayanti.com

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

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

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