

Workshop “Sustainable HEP”

Closing Statement (unsigned)

On 28th–30th June 2021, the workshop “Sustainable High Energy Physics” took place by videoconferencing means with more than 350 registered participants from around 45 countries and five continents. The aim of this workshop was to initiate a community discussion on how to align the scientific operations within this particular subfield of physics with requirements of climate sustainability. Achieving the latter is a most pressing global issue for the present decade (as evidenced by the [IPCC reports](#)). The main focus of the workshop was on the scientific travel culture and the virtualisation of scientific exchange. The following topics were highlighted at this occasion:

- characteristics of the climate crisis
- best practice examples on the virtualisation of scientific meetings
- challenges for research institutions to improve their climate sustainability
- improvement of global inclusiveness in scientific exchange through virtualisation
- domains of action for large scale experiments to improve their climate sustainability

We are organisers and participants of the workshop as well as members of the High Energy Physics community or related fields of physics. We understand that the climate impact of certain aspects of our field of research is a cause of concern and we assert that there is a need for determined action to align these with the goals of the Paris climate agreement and, more generally, with the needs of a sustainable society. Our aim is to trigger a discussion on how HEP can live up to its responsibility in the global transition to a sustainable and climate-neutral world, while maintaining the high quality of research and international scientific exchange. In this context, we highlight increased inclusiveness as a crucial co-benefit of online formats.

We thus encourage members of our community to discuss and enable suitable implementations of sustainable development for our field. We stress that this is a call to develop a balanced and deliberated approach that brings together the needs of a global HEP community with the needs of climate sustainability. We call on research and funding institutions to adjust the general framework for research accordingly and to facilitate a transformation towards sustainable means. Consequently, we invite the formation of working groups to continue the discussions initiated at the workshop and to conduct further installations of the workshop on related topics of sustainability that deserve discussions in a broader setting.

Signatures

The following persons have signed the statement as individuals on their own behalf. Please note that institutions are mentioned merely to identify the signatories’ current scientific affiliations. This statement does not (necessarily) reflect the opinions of these institutions.

workshop organisers:

Niklas Beisert (ETH Zürich)
Valerie Domcke (CERN/EPFL)
Astrid Eichhorn (CP3-Origins, University of Southern Denmark)
Kai Schmitz (CERN)

Signing of the Statement

[sign closing statement here](#)

Deadline: 15 July 2021. The statement with signatures will then be published on the website of the workshop.