WCCUS

WORLD CARBON CAPTURE UTILISATION AND STORAGE CONFERENCE



POST-EVENT REPORT

Edinburgh, UK | 21-25 September

2026

WCCUS.ORG



Message from the CONFERENCE CHAIR

The second World CCUS Conference (WCCUS) has successfully concluded and it was an honour to chair it.

The aim of the conference to bring together researchers, engineers, practitioners, and stakeholders working across carbon capture, utilisation, and storage (CCUS) was truly achieved. It was inspiring to see such a diverse community come together, exchange ideas, and discuss the challenges and opportunities ahead.

There were many takeaways from the conference, but one message stood out: we need transdisciplinary approaches and multidisciplinary input.

We must not neglect the social dimensions of carbon capture and storage. Public acceptance and a strong social licence to operate are essential for the successful deployment of CCUS. The benefits of these technologies are not always immediately evident, and it is therefore also our responsibility as scientists and engineers to communicate clearly why these solutions matter and how they can contribute to a more sustainable world.

Overall, it was fantastic to see a community forming and the momentum continuing to grow. A big thank you to everyone who contributed to making the second WCCUS a success.

We are already looking forward to the next conference in the series, which will be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 17-20 April 2028. ***See you there!***

RAFFAELLA OCONE

Chair, World CCUS Conference 2026

WCCUS'26

in numbers

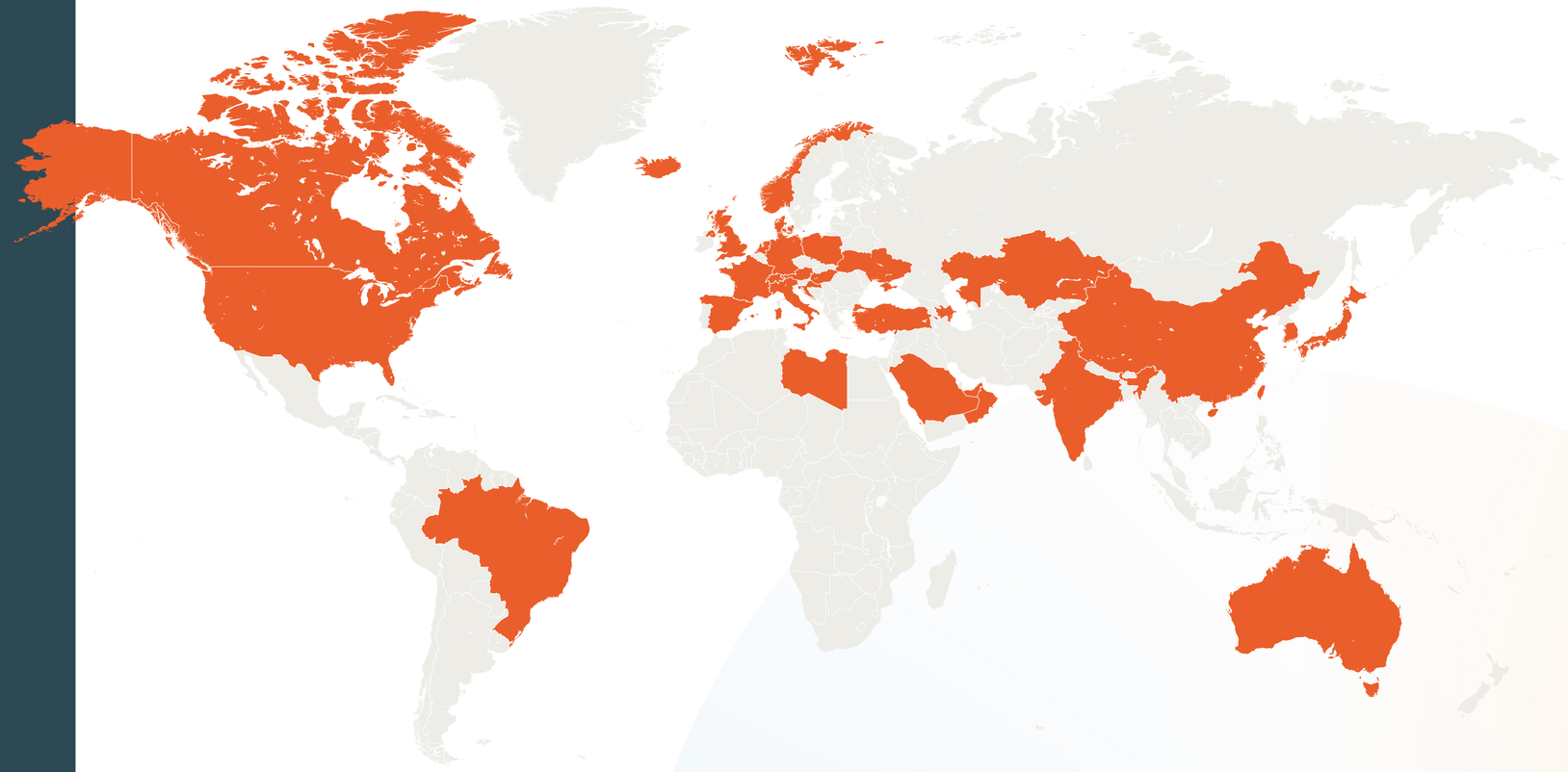
Delegates
300+

Countries
30

Organisations
160+

Presentations
160+

Sessions
40+



WCCUS'26 participating countries

Hear from our ATTENDEES

95%

of attendees expressed satisfaction with the quality and content of the presentations

80%

of attendees highly appreciated the level of expertise demonstrated by the presenters

86%

of attendees had a positive impression of the social programme

Source: WCCUS'26 post-event survey

"We are witnessing the growing momentum and sustained interest in WCCUS, reinforcing its ambition to become a leading global platform for carbon capture, utilisation, and storage. The conference provides an important bridge between industry and academia, with a strong focus on engineering and practical solutions, supported by four national academies."

TAO YANG

Director, China-Europe Institute for Energy Transition

On behalf of the WCCUS Board



A few of the TESTIMONIALS

"WCCUS 2026 was a great place to connect with operators, researchers and service providers working on CCS. The talks were high-quality and the discussions very open. Walking in Edinburgh, such a poetic city, between two sessions made it even more inspiring. Looking forward to the next edition!"

CAMILLE COSSON

Technical/Sales and Marketing Lead

SpotLight

"It was great to see the continued momentum in the CCUS community and, in particular, the growing focus on connecting core-scale understanding with field-scale decisions. Looking forward to continuing these discussions, collaborations, and efforts to improve our understanding and management of uncertainty in CO_2 storage."

MUHAMMAD NUR ALI AKBAR

Senior Reservoir Engineer

Rock Flow Dynamics

"From a technical and policy perspective, I particularly enjoyed discussions around responsible monitoring that is lean but not mean, and ideas for reframing emissions responsibility for producers through a model similar to a bottle return scheme. Above all, it was great to reconnect with old friends, colleagues and mentors, and make some new connections along the way."

LUCY TEASE

Head of Technical Development & People

Goal7

A few of the
TESTIMONIALS

"A rewarding experience volunteering at WCCUS 2026 in Edinburgh. A great opportunity to support delegates, contribute to activities, and chair research sessions. The presentations and panel discussions presented valuable insights into the future of CCUS, thereby providing opportunities to learn, connect, and contribute."

DAVID AGABI

PhD Researcher in Petroleum Engineering, *Heriot-Watt University*

"From delivering a talk on CO_2 storage in Deccan Basalts at the pre-conference workshop, to chairing sessions and seeing our team at the India-DST National Centre of Excellence in CCUS present some groundbreaking work on life-cycle analysis, updated storage capacity estimates, and Indian CCS case studies, the event in Edinburgh was truly rewarding. "

VIKRAM VISHAL

Professor, *Indian Institute of Technology Bombay*



Congratulations to the winners of the

WCCUS AWARDS 2026

We’re proud to introduce the WCCUS Awards, recognising outstanding innovation and leadership that are accelerating the deployment of CCUS worldwide.

WCCUS BREAKTHROUGH TECHNOLOGY AWARDS

NEG8 CARBON TECHNICAL TEAM

for their pioneering Electrostatic Direct Air Capture technology, combining low-temperature regeneration, waste heat utilisation and a TRL 6 prototype to advance scalable, cost-effective carbon removal.



Congratulations to the winners of the

WCCUS AWARDS '26

WCCUS RISING LEADER AWARDS



SARAVANAN JANAKIRAM

for outstanding leadership in advancing membrane-based CO_2 capture from research to industrial deployment, with TRL 7 pilots, patented innovations and expertise spanning materials, manufacturing and process integration.



NIHAL MOUNIR DARRAJ

for exceptional contributions to CO_2 storage, bridging pioneering research with practical deployment and connecting science, industry and policy to support international project development and capacity building.

Thank you to everyone who submitted nominations and helped us shine a light on the exceptional talent, achievements and contributions across our community.



Strategic & Plenary
PROGRAMME

Discussions focused on the conditions needed to build confidence, overcome barriers and accelerate progress across the sector.

- **Building public trust and social licence for CCUS**: Successful projects are developed with the communities they affect. We explored how transparent, credible and meaningful engagement can build understanding and trust from the outset.

- **Overcoming technical and operational challenges to scale CCUS:** Innovation across the full value chain, alongside shared confidence metrics and open benchmarks, is essential to demonstrate what works and enable solutions to scale globally.

- **Making CCUS projects bankable and investable:** With significant private capital required, the right policy, funding and investment frameworks are needed to manage cost and risk, turning ambition into viable projects and actions.

STRATEGIC SPEAKERS PART 1



Chris Page
Viridien



Eva Halland
CarbonGeo



Kristian Brandsegg
TGS



Sally Benson
Stanford University



Stuart Haszeldine
University of Edinburgh



Paul Fennell
Imperial College London



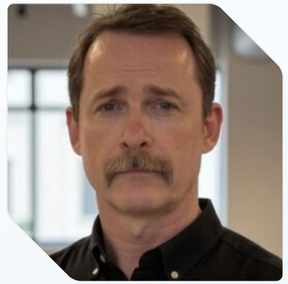
Catherine Witt
Storegga



Philip Ringrose
NTNU



Francisco Garcia Garcia
University of Edinburgh



Andrew Cavanagh
Edinburgh Climate Change Institute



Ian Barron
NSTA



Raffaella Ocone
Heriot-Watt University



Tao Yang
China-Europe Institute for Energy Transition



Olivia Powis
Carbon Capture and Storage Association

STRATEGIC SPEAKERS PART 2



Greg Symons
Scottish Government



Stian Aakre
Wärtsilä



Nick Richardson
NSTA



Felix Herrmann
Georgia Institute of Technology



William Haidar
Stimwell Services



Saravanan Janakiram
Aqualung Carbon Capture



Hannah Galbraith-Olive
Global CCS Institute



Håvard Halland
Heriot-Watt University



Maria-Chiara Ferrari
University of Edinburgh



Francesca Watson
SINTEF



Sarah Perez
Heriot-Watt University



Nihal Darraj
Imperial College London



Technical PROGRAMME

From technology and infrastructure to policy and society, the conference highlighted the breadth of innovation and challenges shaping the future of CCUS.

- **Advancing capture and carbon removal:** Innovation in CO_2 capture, conversion and removal is opening new opportunities, from emerging technologies to hard-to-abate industrial and maritime applications.
- **Building transport and infrastructure:** Progress across CO_2 transport, stream management and system integration is helping connect the different elements of the CCUS value chain and enable deployment at scale.
- **Unlocking safe and secure storage:** Advances in storage capacity, plume behaviour, geochemistry and monitoring are strengthening confidence in secure CO_2 storage and expanding potential storage pathways.
- **Creating the conditions for CCUS:** Policy, regulation, governance and public perception remain central to deployment, alongside new opportunities for AI and broader socioeconomic benefits.

The conference proceedings are available with open access on EarthDoc! Access here

EarthDoc
ONLINE GEOSCIENCE DATABASE

OUTSTANDING Contributions

BEST ABSTRACTS

Ingvild Ombudstvedt

IOM Law

for the paper **"The Impact of Classifying CO_2"**

Grazia De Angelis

University of Bologna, INSTM, University of Edinburgh

for the paper **"Pumping CO_2 from Air: Feasibility of Moisture-Driven Membrane Direct Air Capture (MD-DAC)"**

Stuart Haszeldine & Andrew Cavanagh

University of Edinburgh

for the paper **"The Storage Bottleneck, CCS Limits are Redefining Global Net Zero Timelines Beyond 2070"**

BEST ORAL PRESENTATION

Jacob Ladenburg

Technical University of Denmark

for the paper **"Economic and Social Trade-offs in CO_2 Storage Location Choices: Estimating Willingness-to-Pay for Offshore, Nearshore, and Onshore CCS"**

BEST POSTER

Ting Hu

China University of Petroleum, Beijing

for the paper **"The Intrinsic Nature of Rapid Mineralization of CO_2 in Peridotites—Data Reproduction from a pilot test site"**

BEST STUDENT ORAL PRESENTATION

Chioma Emehel

Heriot-Watt University

for the paper **"Tailoring sodium accessibility in RuCu-Na_2ZrO_3 catalyst for tuneable CO_2 hydrogenation pathways"**

BEST STUDENT POSTER

Maryam Nasiri Ghiri

University of Lancashire

for the paper **"Mathematical Formulation of Sigmoidal Water Adsorption: Klotz vs Weighted Dual-Site Langmuir in mmen-Mg_2(dobpdc)"**

Activities

WORKSHOPS, SHORT COURSES & FIELD TRIPS

Alongside the conference programme, attendees had the chance to gain practical insights and deep dives into specialised topics through Workshops, Short Courses and Field Trips.

WORKSHOPS

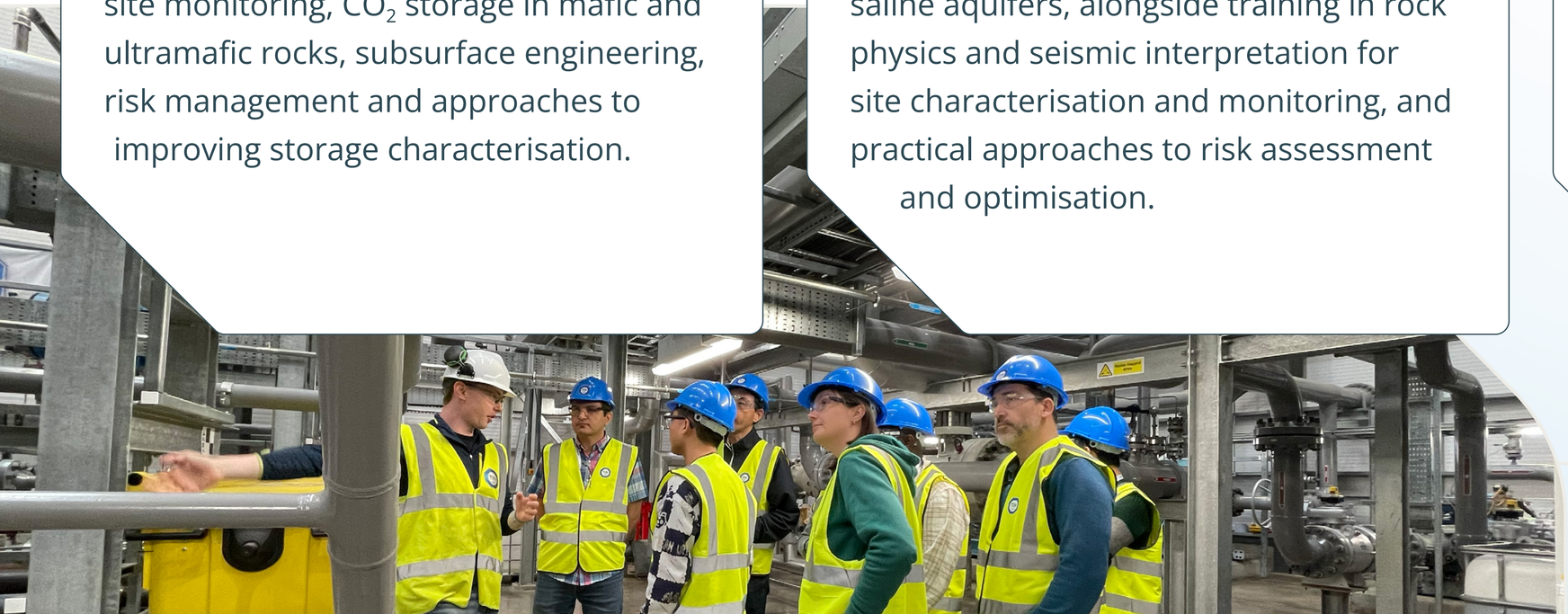
explored **practical aspects of carbon management projects**, covering CCS site monitoring, CO_2 storage in mafic and ultramafic rocks, subsurface engineering, risk management and approaches to improving storage characterisation.

SHORT COURSES

provided **in-depth learning** on CO_2 storage project design and optimisation in saline aquifers, alongside training in rock physics and seismic interpretation for site characterisation and monitoring, and practical approaches to risk assessment and optimisation.

FIELD TRIPS

offered **practical and historical perspectives**, with a visit to the National Engineering Laboratory exploring CO_2 flow measurement, testing facilities and uncertainty reduction, alongside a guided walking tour exploring Professor Joseph Black's pioneering work on CO_2.



SOCIAL programme

The networking and social activities created a vibrant and relaxed environment for attendees to connect beyond formal sessions.

- **Networking Reception** provided a relaxed setting to connect with fellow attendees over drinks and refreshments. It was a great opportunity to meet new people, catch up with familiar faces and enjoy informal conversation away from the conference sessions.
- **Conference Evening at The Caves** brought attendees together for a dinner with laughter and lively conversations filling the atmospheric stone vaults of Edinburgh's historic South Bridge. It was a memorable evening of connection, celebration and great company.



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IES
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IESA
India Energy Storage Alliance

NCS 2030
National Centre for Sustainable Subsurface Utilization of the Norwegian Continental Shelf
University of Stavanger

American Chemical Society
PMSE
Division of Polymeric Materials: Science and Engineering

SCCS

smile
European Doctoral Network on Geo-energy

SOCIETY OF PETROPHYSICISTS AND WELL LOG ANALYSTS

Stanford Center for Carbon Storage

UNESCO
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNITWIN
UNESCO Chair in Green Transition for Carbon Neutrality and Climate Change

WGDO
World Green Design Organization

WCCUS

WORLD CARBON CAPTURE UTILISATION AND STORAGE

CONFERENCE

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or follow us on **LinkedIn**



SEE YOU AGAIN

17-20 APRIL 2028

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

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