Networking and small talk
How to break the ice

When you attend conferences, one of your main goals is to meet other researchers with a view to setting up new collaborations. To this end, networking is as powerful a tool for career development in science as it is in any other walk of life. But mustering the courage to network at conferences can be difficult, and one of the biggest challenges for scientists is making small talk. How do I establish contact with a complete stranger? What do I talk about? How can I deal with awkward silences? How do I come across?

The objective of this workshop is to enable you to make the best of networking opportunities. You will prepare and practise small talk and typical conversations. In addition, you will leave the workshop with feedback and many easy-to-follow tips.

The following topics will be covered:
- Selling yourself in an elevator pitch
- Breaking the ice and eliminating uncomfortable silences
- Strategies for understanding native speakers of English
- Interacting with others in mini-conversations about your research
- Managing and controlling a discussion
- Giving and receiving constructive feedback

Scientists and researchers of all disciplines Required English Level: B2
Duration of training: 09:00 a.m. - 05:00 p.m.