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Fred Steward is Professor of Innovation & Sustainability at the Policy Studies Institute, University of Westminster, London. Prior to this he led innovation research at the business schools of Brunel University and Aston University. Seconded to NESTA, the UK innovation agency in 2008, he has advised government departments in the UK, Europe and China on innovation and sustainability. He worked with 6 European regions in the Making Transitions Happen platform of the European Institute of Innovation & Technology Climate-KIC. He is Visiting Professor at Imperial College, London and President of the European Association for the Study of Science & Technology, EASST.

His primary research interest is in 'transformative innovation' – pervasive radical system wide social & technological change. His approach to this combines innovation network concepts and sociotechnical transition theory. The role of innovation in addressing the global challenge of climate change and environmental sustainability is his research focus along with its implications for policy.

A member of the international scientific committee of the Dutch Knowledge network for System Innovation and transitions (KSI) programme he also serves on the programme committee of the Sustainable Transitions Research Network. He is a member of the Royal Society committee on Global Environmental Change.