

Conference Announcement and Call for Papers



17th European Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production

Research | Experience | Development

14.-16. October 2014 | Portorož, Slovenia

info@erscp2014.eu

www.erscp.2014

The **17th European Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ERSCP 2014)** is being built upon successful previous ERSCP conferences, such as the ones in Istanbul (Turkey), Bregenz (Austria), and Delft (Netherlands). The objective of the 17th ERSCP is to provide a platform to stimulate, develop, and disseminate information about new initiatives aimed at fostering the implementation of sustainable consumption and production within local and regional sustainable development initiatives. The Roundtable will have a special focus upon the urgency for developing serious efforts to speed up the transition to post fossil carbon societies in light of numerous climate change challenges.

1. ERSCP 2014 Conference in Portorož, Slovenia

We plan to bring together more than 400 stakeholders, from businesses, cities and communities, public institutions, universities, institutes and research centres, NGOs, SMEs, professional associations, decision-makers. The conference is being organized by Nigrad d. d., a utility company, and by the University of Primorska, Institute Andrej Marušič, in collaboration with other national and international partners.

2. Venue and time

ERSCP 2014 will be held in Portorož, Slovenia, the Congress Centre Portus during

October 14–16, 2014.

The conference logo symbolises the **Europe we, its inhabitants want. It will be** research and development oriented, based upon experiences and collaboration among sustainable cities and communities with the objective of generating green jobs within the context of global climate changes.

3. Scope and focus: Research, Experience, Development

The World, and Europe, is facing economic, environmental, and social **challenges** due in part to unemployment, climate changes, land degradation, air, water and soil pollution, depletion of non-renewable resources, and unsustainable patterns of consumption and production. There are also challenges due to poverty, poor health, and ageing populations. To overcome the risks that threaten mankind and ecosystem health of the **Planet**, economic development beyond Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is essential in order to foster sustainable use of resources and to reduce the environmental impacts of human development.

4. Themes

In all the themes, contributions and case studies aimed to achieve **“the Europe we want”** will be addressed, with special attention given to sustainable/smart cities and communities, mutual regional integration, and cooperation among the countries in the Mediterranean,

Central Europe, and South-Eastern European areas as together we learn from experiences from Nordic, Western and Asian countries. Based upon responses to the Call for Papers, the final themes of the ERSCP Roundtable will be elaborated into sub-themes.

The following main themes will form the framework of the 17th ERSCP:

1. **Improvements in Resource Efficiency, Sustainable Production and Improved Process, Product and Service Design**
2. **Experiences with Sustainable/Smart Cities and Communities**
3. **Advances in 'Real' Sustainable Consumption and Beyond GDP Initiative**
4. **New Initiatives in Education for Sustainable Development**
5. **Results of Sustainability Innovations Research and Development**
6. **Exciting High-Tech for Sustainability in Industries**
7. **Challenges for Making Progress in Cross-Cutting Themes Including Green and Inclusive Entrepreneurship and Sustainable & Ethical Investments**

Pollution Prevention, Cleaner Production, process intensification, voluntary improvement approaches, enhanced resource efficiency, energy and mass integration, co- and poly-generation, renewable energy and materials resources, industrial ecology, circular economy, supply and value chain optimization, zero waste, waste minimisation, design for environment, eco-design, sustainable product-service systems, (eco)design for sustainability, integrated pollution prevention and control, best available techniques, best practices and case studies, environmental management systems, and corporate reporting are examples of the key words on **sustainable production and design**.

Environmental policy, triple bottom line, decoupling, environmental law and ethics, changing life-styles and personal behaviour, footprints, partnerships, global cooperation, industrial-regional symbiosis, social responsibility, ecological economics, externalities, green purchasing, eco-labelling, passive buildings, water stress, sustainability indicators, food, mobility, sustainable tourism, grass-root innovations, collaborative consumption, sharing economy, design for sustainable behavior, and sustainable well-being are some of the watch words of **sustainable consumption**.

In the last years, a wide range of initiatives, experiments, actions and models for sustainable living have been proposed within Europe and in neighbouring countries; however, enablers, solutions and pathways to overcome barriers for scaling-up and moving towards new, more sustainable economies still need to be detailed and implemented. Increasing their visibility and strengthening links between/among them are parts of the often-mentioned theory of change. At the macro level, the **Beyond GDP** initiative can help in adapting production and consumption to new boundary conditions and to pave the way to both, **Gross National Happiness** and the **Happy Planet**.

Cities and communities are contributing to unsustainable consumption patterns and hence have a significant impact on the environment. The sustainable, "smart" cities and communities' concepts are based upon integrated approaches that encompass innovative, sustainable and inclusive dimensions of an intelligent city. They are designed to ensure that natural resources are produced, processed and consumed in a more environmentally sustainable way by simultaneously integrating information and communication technologies, public services, the local economies, and social life into a more humane urban infrastructure aiming at sustainable urban management and better living conditions.

The concept of sustainable cities and communities represents progressive and interoperable integration of **public utility services**, which are still at the initial stages both in Europe and around the world. Sustainable, smart *infrastructure* is one of the most important research and development areas at the global level. It relates to the development

of sensor-actuated systems of Internet of Things – IoT, Cloud Computing and analytics of big data.

To achieve sustainability, **education** and life-long **learning** are essential prerequisites. Especially, education for sustainable development that is learning about values, attitudes, lifestyles needed for a sustainable future of world societies. It means including key sustainable development issues, e.g. climate change, poverty reduction, and sustainable consumption into teaching and learning. Such an education requires participatory teaching and learning methods that motivate and empower learners to change their behaviour and to take action for sustainable development through their lives, at all levels.

Globalization is transferring industrial working places from developed countries to developing nations, debts are lowering investment potential in many countries, and scarcity of resources requires improved productivity and value added. The best way to progress toward more sustainable societies is through **innovation** leadership.

This can be done through sustainable management strategies designed to foster a culture of open innovation for supporting green and inclusive start-ups, based upon system innovations, sustainability transitions, stakeholder involvement, early stage financing, and impact investing. These phases can be orchestrated to bring new, green products, processes, technologies and services to the market while, reducing the use of resources as we strive to achieve improved, equitable, quality of life for all. These and other aspects of creativity and innovations for sustainable development will be addressed in the 17th ERSCP.

The objectives of the 17th ERSCP are:

- To enhance and strengthen regional cooperation through information and experience exchange in development and implementation of broader sustainable consumption and production topics, including innovations, high technology solutions, sustainable cities and communities, and education for sustainable development;
- To promote best available techniques, technologies, practices, programmes, local initiatives, best case studies, and lessons learned on SCP related projects in Europe and Globally;
- To discuss recent European activities in the global context to identify potential challenges and alternative solutions for implementing and scaling-up SCP practices in relation to sustainable living, greening of products, production and business processes and services, to improve efficiency, to educate for sustainable development, and to reduce environmental impacts, including climate change mitigation and adaptation, in order to achieve *the Europe we want*.
- To facilitate and inspire implementation of equitable, market-based solutions (where consumption and production meet at the regimes level) and innovative partnerships that foster sustainable living and production. In this respect, barriers faced such as access to finance and solutions found by entrepreneurs and civil societal organisations as well as service providers engaging with them in creating solutions, planting and scaling-up seed innovations will be explored.

5. Programme

The programme will include regular paper & poster sessions, workshops, two mini symposia, several mini roundtables, and social events, including a welcome party, a conference dinner and excursions. Networking and capacity building will be facilitated during the conference. There will be excursions on Friday October 17th, 2014. *A special programme of activities is being planned for accompanying persons.*

More information will be posted at www.erscp2014.eu, and the general e-mail address is info@erscp2014.eu.

The Organizing Committee:

Rebeka Kovačič Lukman, Nigrad Ltd., and University of Primorska, IAM, Slovenia
Peter Glavič, University of Maribor, Slovenia
Boris Horvat, University of Primorska, IAM, Slovenia
Alen Orbanić, University of Primorska, IAM, Slovenia
Donald Huisingsh, University of Tennessee, USA
Rodrigo Lozano, Utrecht University, Netherlands
Nilgün Ciliz, Bogazici University, Turkey
Willi Sieber, Austrian Ecological Institute, Austria
Arnold Tukker TNO Delft, Leiden University, Netherlands
Jaco Quist, Delft University of Technology, Netherlands

Format and Procedures for Submission of Papers

We are inviting authors to prepare original articles, state of the art reviews, or case studies for the European Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Consumption and Production (ERSCP). One page Abstracts of 400–500 words are invited in response to this Call for Papers. The abstracts must be prepared in English.

Please submit your abstracts on <http://www.erscp2014.eu> by April 15, 2014. By May 20, 2014, after scientific review of the abstracts, the authors of the selected abstracts will be invited to submit full papers by September 10, 2014. All submissions should be developed based upon the editorial guidelines provided in the instructions for authors for “Journal of Cleaner Production”, which can be accessed from the following website:

http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/journaldescription.cws_home/30440/authorinstructions.

After the conference, individual scientific teams of the ERSCP streams will select the articles to be developed for peer review and for potential publication in the Journal of Cleaner Production.

Upon receipt of the completed documents, a minimum of three to four independent reviewers will be selected to provide peer reviews for each document. Upon receipt and acceptance of the authors’ revised documents, they will be published in a subsequent special volume of the JCLP.

The preliminary list of experts in the fields of the ERSCP who will coordinate the review/revision process for the development and publication of the Special Volume include:

The Scientific Committee:

Rebeka Kovačič Lukman, Nigrad Ltd., and University of Primorska, IAM, SI (Coordinator); Peter Glavič, University of Maribor, SI; Boris Horvat, University of Primorska, IAM, SI; Alen Orbanić, University of Primorska, IAM, SI; Dr. Nilgün Ciliz, Bogazici University, TR; Dr. Jaco Quist, Delft University of Technology, NL; Prof. Arnold Tukker, TNO Delft, NL; Dr. Cristina Rocha, LNEG, PT; Prof. Han Brezet, Delft University of Technology, NL; Dr. Reine Karlsson, Lund University, SE; Dr. Willie Sieber, Austrian Ecological Institute, AT; Prof. Hans Schnitzer, Graz University of Technology, AT; Dr. Marlyne Sahakian, Lausanne University, USA; Prof Arne Remmen, Aalborg University, DK; Dr Sylvia Lorek, SERI Germany, DE; Prof. Leo Baas, Linköping University, SE; Prof. Philip Vergragt, Tellus Institute, USA; Pavel Ruzicka, PREPARE Network, CZ; Prof. Carlo Vezzoli, Politecnico di Milano, IT; Donald Huisingsh, University of Tennessee, USA; Rodrigo Lozano, Utrecht University, NL; Oihana Hernaez, Prospektiker, ES; Olatz Errazkin, Prospektiker, ES; Aida Sorina Szilagyi, RO; Johannes Fresner, AT; Jurgis Staniskis, KTU, LT; Kim Christiansen, Danish Standard, DK; Maria Kalleitner-Huber, AT; Stig Hirsbak, DK; Thomas Schonfelder, ATMOTERM, PL; Marianna Assenova, SERC, BG; Dr. Heinz Leuenberger, UNIDO; Dr. Petra Schwager, UNIDO.