**Conference Announcement and Call for Papers**



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The **17th European Roundtable** on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ERSCP 2014) is building on 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 will be organized by Nigrad d. d., a utility company, and The University of Primorska, Institute Andrej Marušič, in collaboration with other national and international partners.

1. **Venue and time**

ERSCP 2014 will take place in Portorož, Slovenia, the Congress Centre Portusduring

**October 14–16, 2014.**

The conference logo symbolises the Europe we, its inhabitants want: research and development oriented, based on experience and collaboration for sustainable cities and communities, and able to generate green jobs.

1. **Scope and focus: Research, Experience, Development**

The World, and Europe, are facing economic, environmental,and social **challenges** such as crisis, and unemployment; climate change, land degradation, air, water and soil pollution, depletion of non-renewable resources, and unsustainable patterns of consumption and production; poverty, health, and ageing population. To overcome the risks that threaten mankind and the Planet, economy development beyond Gross Domestic Product (GDP), efficient use of resources, environmental impact reduction, and further human development are sought.

1. **Themes**

In all the themes, contributions and case studies aimed to achieve “the Europe we want” will be discussed, with a special attention given to the sustainable/smart cities and communities, mutual regional integration, and cooperation between the Mediterranean, Central Europe, and South-Eastern European areas using experiences from Nordic and Western countries. According to the Call for Papers response, the themes will be elaborated into sub-themes.

The following themes are proposed as a framework for the 17th ERSCP:

1. **Resource efficiency, sustainable production and design**
2. **Sustainable/smart cities and communities**
3. **Sustainable Consumption**
4. **Education for Sustainable Development**
5. **Sustainability Innovations Research and Development**
6. **High-tech for Sustainability in Industries**
7. **Cross cutting themes including green and inclusive entrepreneurship and impact investing**

Pollution prevention, Cleaner Production, process intensification, voluntary approaches, resource efficiency, energy and mass integration, co- and poly-generation, renewable sources, industrial ecology, circular economy, supply and value chain optimization, zero waste, waste mining, design for environment, eco-design, sustainable product-service systems, (co)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 approaching within Europe and in neighbouring countries; however, enablers, solutions and pathways to overcome barriers for scaling-up and moving towards to new economy still need to be detailed and researched. Increasing their visibility and strengthening links between 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 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. Sustainable, “smart” cities and communities concept uses an integrated approach that encompasses innovative, sustainable and inclusive dimensions of an intelligent city, ensuring that natural resources are produced, processed and consumed in a more environmentally sustainable way, simultaneously integrating information and communication technologies, public services, local economy, and social life into 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-actuator systems of Internet of Things – IoT, Cloud Computing and analytics of Big data.

To achieve sustainability, **education** and life-long **learning** present 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 take action for sustainable development.

Globalization is transferring industrial working places from developed countries to developing nations, debts are lowering investment potential in many countries, and extinction of resources is requiring improved competitiveness, higher productivity and value added. The only way to maintain sustainable development in developed countries is **innovation** leadership. Sustainable innovation management strategies, culture of innovation, open innovation, green and inclusive start-ups, social innovations, green innovation systems, system innovations, sustainability transitions, stakeholder involvement, early stage financing, impact investing can bring new green products, processes, technologies and services to the market, reducing the use of resources and pollution while keeping the quality of life. All aspects of creativity, inventions and innovations for sustainable development will be dealt with in ERSCP.

The **aim** of the conference is:

* 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 broader.
* 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 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 creation of actions, market-based solutions (where consumption and production meet at the regimes level) and innovative partnerships that can foster sustainable living and production. In this respect, barriers faced such as access to finance and solutions found by entrepreneurs and civil society organisations as well as service providers engaging with them in creating solutions, planting and scaling-up seed innovations will be explored.

1. **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](http://www.erscp2014.eu), while general e-mail address is [info@erscp2014.eu](mailto:info@erscp2014.eu) and will be operational in December 2013.

**Organizing Committee:**

Rebeka Kovačič Lukman, Nigrad d.d., 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

Don Huisingh, 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 February 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 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 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 one or two issues of the JCLP.

The preliminary list of experts in the fields of the ERSCP will coordinate the review/revision process for the development and publication of the special issue(s):

**Scientific committee:**

Rebeka Kovačič Lukman, Nigrad Ltd., and University of Primorska, IAM, Slovenia (Coordinator), e-mail: rebela.lukman@nigrad.si; Peter Glavič, University of Maribor, Slovenia, e-mail: peter.glavic@um.si; Boris Horvat, University of Primorska, IAM, Slovenia, e-mail: boris@abelium.si; Alen Orbanić, University of Primorska, IAM, Slovenia, e-mail: allen@abelium.si; Dr. Nilgün Cılız, Bogazici University, email: [cilizn@boun.edu.tr](mailto:cilizn@boun.edu.tr).; Dr. Jaco Quist, Delft; University of Technology, email: J.N.Quist@tudelft.nl; Prof. Arnold Tukker, TNO Delft, email: arnold.tukker@tno.nl; Dr. Cristina Rocha, Laboratório Nacional de Energia e Geologia, email: cristina.rocha@lneg.pt; Prof. Han Brezet, Delft University of Technology, email: j.c.brezet@tudelft.nl; Dr. Reine Karlsson, Lund University, email: reine.karlsson@tem.lu.se; Dr. Willie Sieber, Austrian Ecological Institute, email: sieber@ecology.at; Prof. Hans Schnitzer, email: Graz University of Technology, email: hans.schnitzer@tugraz.at; Dr. Marlyne Sahakian, Lausane University, email: marlyne.sahakian@graduateinstitute.ch; Prof Arne Remmen, Aalborg University, email: ar@plan.aau.dk; Dr Sylvia Lorek, SERI Germany, email:Sylvia.lorek@seri.de; Prof. Leo Baas, Linköping University, email: leenard.baas@liu.se, Prof. Philip Vergragt, Tellus Institute, email:pvergragt@tellus.org; Pavel Ruzicka, PREPARE Network, email: pruzicka@enviros.cz; Prof. Carlo Vezzolli, Politecnico di Milano, email: carlo.vezzoli@polimi.it.