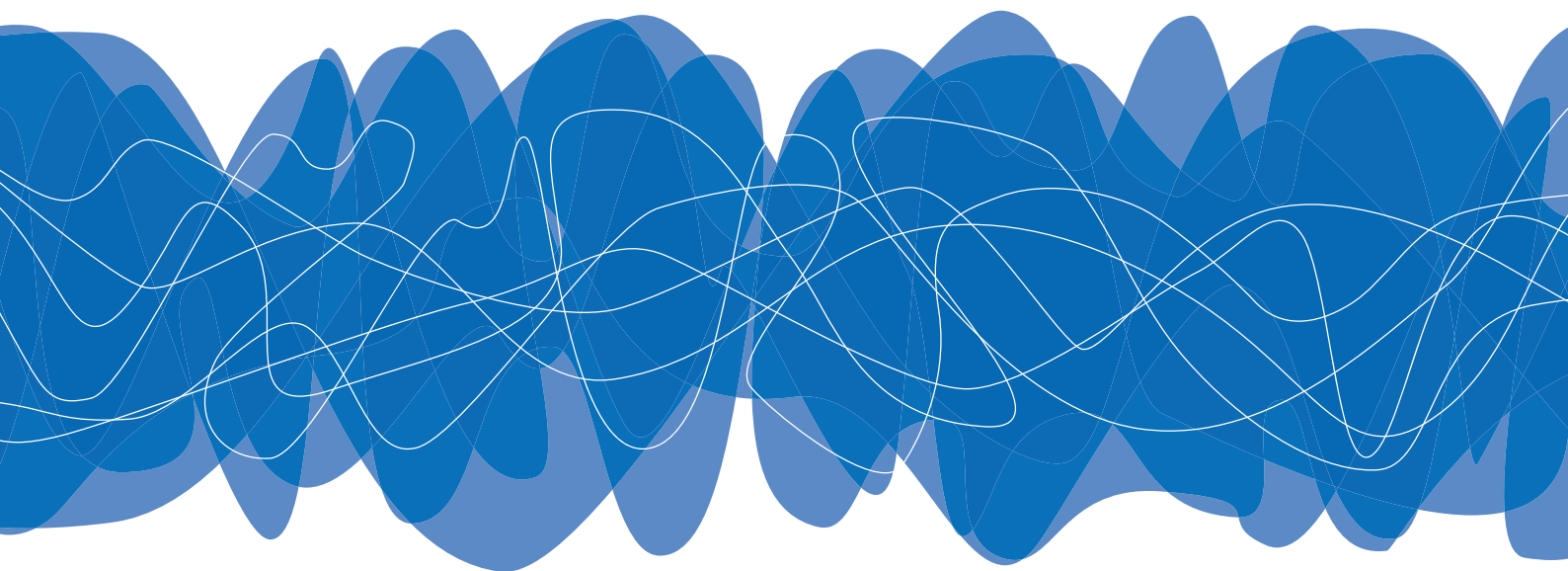


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Austrian
Presidency
of the
Council of the
European Union

GROWTH._{EU}
TRANSITION

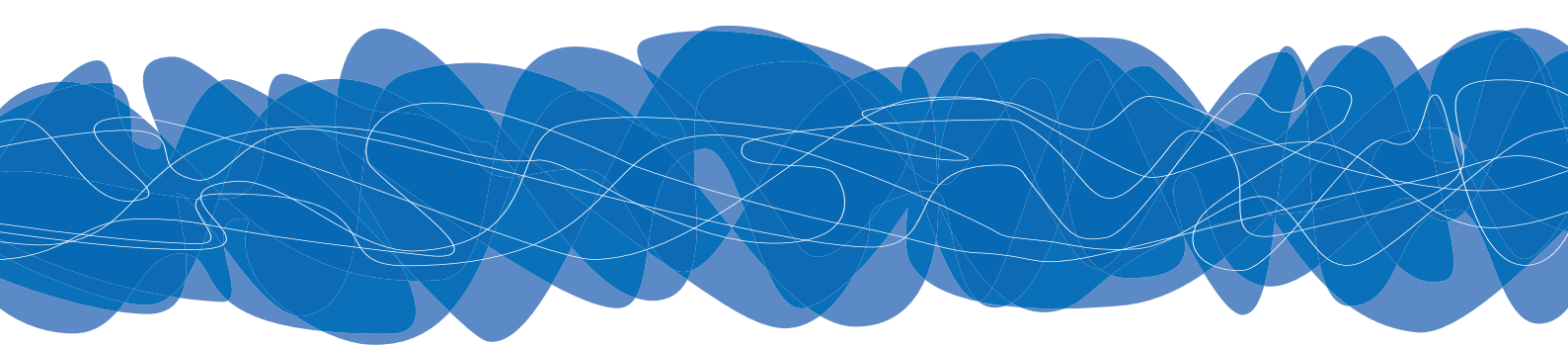
4TH INTERNATIONAL GROWTH IN TRANSITION CONFERENCE
**EUROPE'S TRANSFORMATION:
WHERE PEOPLE MATTER**



www.growthintransition.eu/conference2018/

14-15 NOVEMBER 2018 AUSTRIA CENTER VIENNA

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME



www.growthintransition.eu/conference2018/registration/

[#eugit2018](#)

facebook: [wiw_conference](#)



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 811144.

EUROPE'S TRANSFORMATION: WHERE PEOPLE MATTER

14-15 NOVEMBER 2018 AUSTRIA CENTER VIENNA

This year, the Initiative Growth in Transition is organising its fourth international conference, entitled „Europe's Transformation: Where People Matter“, on 14-15 November 2018 at the Austria Center Vienna. During the two-day event, plenary and parallel sessions will feature inspiring speakers from politics, science, civil-society and the private sector. Participatory conference formats will enable a dialogue between relevant stakeholders.

With Austria holding the Presidency of the Council of the European Union in the second half of the year 2018, the conference will reach out to an international audience.

The conference will address the transformation towards a resilient and sustainable society from very different perspectives. Conference topics will range from social and distributional aspects of a fair society to the role of the financial sector enabling a sustainability transformation. In order to sustain and increase prosperity and quality of life in the long term, we will need economic strategies which use the planet's resources responsibly. A special focus will be put on the sustainable management of natural resources use and the mitigation of climate change. What measures need to be taken to achieve decarbonisation and a low-carbon society on the national and European level? In view of the challenge of a sustainable transformation of society, the role of the media will be examined. How can we create an encouraging vision of the future? The digital revolution has already transformed the world we live in. The question raised at the conference will be whether there is a chance of shaping a sustainable digital economy.

MAIN TOPICS

The Sustainability Transformation in Europe | The Role of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals | The Societal Challenge of Climate Change and Digital Economy | The Implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement | Social and Ecological Innovation | The Role of Business in a Low Carbon Transition | Circular Economy and Beyond

ABOUT GROWTH IN TRANSITION:

The initiative „Growth in Transition“, which was launched in 2008, brings together transformation activists and decision makers from politics, science, the economy and civil society and promotes dialogue and an exchange of perspectives on growth, prosperity and quality of life. It provides an international platform which aims to address questions of growth and an alternative, sustainable economy. The initiative is organised by the Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism.

PARTNERS / STAKEHOLDER ORGANISATIONS:

 Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Sustainability and Tourism

 Federal Chancellery

 Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Finance

 Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Education, Science
and Research

 Federal Ministry
Transport, Innovation
and Technology



Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism | Federal Chancellery | Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Research | Federal Ministry for Finance | Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology | Office of the Regional Government of Lower Austria | City of Vienna - Municipal Department Energy Planning | University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna | University of Vienna - Department of Political Science | Vienna University of Economics and Business | Alliance of Sustainable Universities in Austria | Austrian Chamber of Agriculture | Chamber of Labour Vienna | Austrian Society for Environment and Technology | B.A.U.M. | Austrian Network for Sustainable Leadership | Centre for Social Innovation | Club of Rome - Austrian Chapter | Ecosocial Forum Austria | Energy and Environment Agency of Lower Austria | Environment Agency Austria | European Environment Agency | EU Environmental Bureau | IHS - Institute for Advanced Studies | Network Socio-Ecological Transformation Research | OeKB Österreichische Kontrollbank | Oesterreichische Nationalbank | REWE International AG | Robert Jungk Zukunftsbibliothek | SERI - Sustainable Europe Research Institute | SOL - People for Solidarity, Ecology and Lifestyle | WIFO - Austrian Institute of Economic Research | WWF Austria - World Wide Fund For Nature

TIMETABLE

Wednesday, 14 November 2018

08:00–09:30 Registration
09:30–10:00 Opening
10:00–11:00 Keynotes
11:00–12:15 Political Panel
13:45–15:45 Parallel Sessions

Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
DIGITALISATION AND ENVIRONMENT	ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT: CHALLENGES FOR A SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATION <i>Interactive</i>	FUTURE CAFÉ: ACTIONS & SOLUTIONS THAT MATTER <i>Interactive</i>	SCIENCE IN TRANSITION <i>Interactive</i>

Session 5	Session 6	Session 7	Session 8	Session 9
FUTURE WITHOUT NATURAL AREAS? <i>Youth</i>	UNDERSTANDING EUROPE'S TRANSFORMATION: IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE – AND VALUES <i>Interactive</i>	INVESTING "GREEN" OR "BROWN" – HERE IS THE NEXT BUBBLE?	AT THE PEAK OF SOCIAL CHANGE! LEARNING FROM SUCCESS STORIES FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION <i>Interactive</i>	ART WORKSHOP: GROWING PICTURES <i>Youth</i>

16:15–18:15 Parallel Sessions

Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
ARE MEDIA ENCOURAGING TRANSFORMATION?	RESOURCE EFFICIENCY CONTRIBUTIONS TO DECARBONISATION	BEST PRACTICE EXAMPLES <i>Interactive</i>	SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATIONS IN RESEARCH AND POLITICS <i>Interactive</i>

Session 5	Session 6	Session 7	Session 8	Session 9
RESPONSIBLE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION: CO-OPERATION ALONG VALUE CHAINS IN CONFLICT AREAS	GOOD DEAL? PRECONDITIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE FINANCE <i>Interactive</i>	BRINGING THE SDGS TO LIFE: FROM STATUS QUO TO A SUSTAINABILITY TRANSFORMATION	THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN TRANSFORMATION	ART WORKSHOP: GROWING PICTURES <i>Youth</i>

19:30–22:30 SPECIAL EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT
Palais Niederösterreich



Thursday, 15 November 2018

08:00–08:45 Registration

08:45–09:00 Opening

09:00–10:30 Keynotes

11:00–12:30 Parallel Sessions

Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5
SPECIAL SESSION: WHERE PEOPLE MATTER	FISCAL REFORM FOR A LOW CARBON TRANSITION	TO LIVE BETTER WITH LESS	COMPANIES TAKING ACTION TO MEET SDG 13	A POSITIVE POST-GROWTH SCENARIO FOR EUROPE: THE X WAYS TO MAKE A POST-GROWTH SOCIETY WORK
	<i>Interactive</i>	<i>Interactive</i>		

14:00–15:30 “Call for Action” and Parallel Sessions

Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5
SPECIAL SESSION: ELABORATING THE “CALL FOR ACTION”	THE SDGS AS COMPASS FOR TRANSFORMATION	BIOECONOMY – DESIGNED BY ALL OF US	A JUST TRANSITION TO A LOW CARBON ECONOMY – THE ROLE OF LABOUR AND CIVIL SOCIETY	THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT IN TRANSITION
<i>Interactive, Youth</i>		<i>Interactive</i>		

16:00–17:30 Keynote, Presentation of “Call for Action” and Conclusion

17:30 *End of Conference*



WEDNESDAY, 14 NOVEMBER 2018

08:00–9:30 Registration

09:30–10:00 Opening

ELISABETH KÖSTINGER

Federal Minister for Sustainability and Tourism of Austria

WOLFGANG BURTSCHER (tbc)

Deputy Director-General of DG Research and Innovation of the European Commission

Moderation: CORINNA MILBORN, Journalist and Moderator at PULS 4

10:00–11:00 Keynotes

BAN KI-MOON

Former Secretary-General of the United Nations and
President and Chair of the Council of the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)

Moderation: CORINNA MILBORN, Journalist and Moderator at PULS 4

11:00–12:15 Political Panel

BRUNE POIRSON (tbc)

Minister of State, attached to the Ministre d'État,
Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition of France

STIENTJE VAN VELDHoven

State Secretary for Infrastructure and Water Management of the Netherlands

Moderation: PETER WOODWARD, Facilitator (tbc)

Lunch

13:45–15:45 Parallel Sessions

DIGITALISATION AND ENVIRONMENT

The digital economy is the culmination of the explosion of consumer connectivity: half the world's population is online, a third can be found on a social network and 53% are mobile. This young, dynamic, \$3 trillion system based on technological infrastructure has changed the rules of doing business. The digital revolution has transformed the time we live in and will continue to do so. All these changes lead or will lead to a profound transformation of society and the economy. Specific elements of the digital economy – such as online shopping – the opportunities they provide and the impact on the energy demand they cause are reflected in this slot. The question with regard to the growing significance of the digital economy will be discussed: "Is there a chance of shaping a sustainable digital economy?"

MARCEL HARASZTI, Divisional Director, REWE International AG, Austria

STEFFEN LANGE, Researcher, Institute for Ecological Economy Research, Germany

PATRICK KESSLER, President, Schweizerischen Versandhandel (VSV), Switzerland

GILBERTO CAMÀRA, Director of the Group on Earth Observations Secretariat, Geneva

PILLE PRUULMANN-VENGERFELDT, Professor in Media and Communication, Malmö University

Organised by: Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism and REWE International AG



ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT: CHALLENGES FOR A SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATION

The session will present and discuss the results of a study presenting the main challenges and opportunities at the intersection of “Economy and Environment”. It will focus on the challenges that derive from the economy-environment-interaction with respect to the goal of a socio-ecological transformation towards sustainable development. Therefore, macro perspectives will be contrasted with entrepreneurial and consumer perspectives. Short thematic inputs will feed into a group discussion, which will lead into an elaboration of open issues for research as well as policy intervention.

SIGRID STAGL, Head of the Institute for Ecological Economic, Vienna University of Economics and Business

STEFAN GILJUM, Head of the Research Group “Global Resource Use”, Institute for Ecological Economics, Vienna University of Economics and Business

EMANUELE CAMPIGLIO, Researcher, Visiting Fellow at the Grantham Research Institute, London School of Economics and Political Science

Moderation:

FRED LUKS, Head of the Competence Center for Sustainability, Vienna University of Economics and Business

STEPHAN LUTTER, Senior Researcher, Institute for Ecological Economics, Vienna University of Economics and Business

Organised by: Vienna University of Economics and Business, Institute for Ecological Economics and Competence Center for Sustainability

FUTURE CAFÉ: ACTIONS & SOLUTIONS THAT MATTER

In an interactive dialogue setting diverse stakeholders representing politics, business, civil society, science and creative industries will together work out solutions and needed actions to overcome the challenges we face. High-level representatives will be guided through conversations in small groups tackling one of the following topics: climate action, innovation & digitalisation, fragmentation versus inclusion, responsible consumption, production and sustainable financing.

Organised by: Impact Hub

SCIENCE IN TRANSITION

This session will emphasize the necessity of a transformation in the knowledge system. If science and higher education are to contribute to a socio-ecological transformation and to reaching the SDGs, a paradigm shift in higher education and science is required. We will start from the outcomes of the Science in Transition Conference (Nov. 13, 2018) and discuss them in an interactive setting: How should the university of the future look like? Which steps lead there? Which obstacles must be overcome?

ARJEN WALSH, Professor of Transformative Learning for Socio-Ecological Sustainability at the Education and Competence Studies Group, Wageningen University

Moderators:

HELGA KROMP-KOLB, Center for Global Change and Sustainability, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna

GERALD STEINER, Dean of the Faculty of Business and Globalization, Danube University Krems

Organised by: Alliance of Sustainable Universities in Austria



WEDNESDAY, 14 NOVEMBER 2018

FUTURE WITHOUT NATURAL AREAS? ZUKUNFT OHNE NATURRÄUME

This session, hosted by B.A.U.M.-Austria (an independent environmental initiative and network of entrepreneurs), will focus on SDG 15 (Life on Land). Introductory notes will highlight the current best practices for the sustainable use and protection of natural areas and evaluate chances for advancements. Afterwards, diverse stakeholders will discuss these approaches with regard to their sustainability and articulate necessary need for action. Finally, the importance of natural areas for young people in the face of cyberspace and augmented reality will be discussed.

GERTRUD HAIDVOGL, Researcher, Institute of Hydrobiology and Aquatic Ecosystem Management, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna

KERSTIN FRIESENBICHLER, Policy Officer for Nature Protection/Bio-Diversity

CAROLINE PALFY, Project Developer Holzbau, CEO CETUS Baudevelopment

BERNHARD KOHLER, World Wide Fund for Nature

GERALD PLATTNER, Nature Management Austrian Federal Forests (ÖBF),

B.A.U.M. – Austrian Network for Sustainable Leadership

Pupil of the Sir Karl Popper public school for highly gifted pupils

Moderation: EVA BERGER, Vice-President of B.A.U.M.-Austria

Organised by: B.A.U.M. – Austrian Network for Sustainable Leadership

This session will be held in German with English translation.

UNDERSTANDING EUROPE'S TRANSFORMATION: IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE – AND VALUES

This session will focus on different sectors of the economy (profit sector, public sector,...) taking into account also the framework conditions, values, etc. typically associated with these sectors. The role of the people working in these sectors, i.e. the contribution of certain groups (e.g. women, civil society) to the well-functioning of the economy, their constraints, the fact to which extent work is paid or unpaid as well as other (e.g. ethical) factors, which are often neglected in traditional economic models, will also be discussed.

Moderation: VERONIKA HASCHKA, Economist, Head of Division "Coordination Science, Research, Education, Social Affairs and Health", Federal Chancellery, Secretariat of the Austrian Bioethics Commission

INVESTING "GREEN" OR "BROWN": HERE IS THE NEXT BUBBLE?

Do investors believe in "green" or "brown" growth? Do they foresee sustainable development or more of the same in terms of resource overconsumption and climate change? If financial markets reflect investors' predictions of the economic future substantial climate mitigation as agreed in Paris by the World's leaders in 2015 seems unlikely. "Green" investments are still in the niche. Who is afraid of sustainable development? Economists and practitioners will try to give answers to these questions.

FRIEDRICH HINTERBERGER, President, Sustainable Europe Research Institute

ARMON REZAI, Associate Professor, Institute for Ecological Economics, Vienna University of Economics and Business

Moderation: PETER MOOSLECHNER, Member of the Governing Board, Oesterreichische Nationalbank

Organised by: Sustainable Research Institute Europe, Oesterreichische Nationalbank and Club of Rome – Austrian Chapter

AT THE PEAK OF SOCIAL CHANGE!

LEARNING FROM SUCCESS STORIES FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION

Change towards sustainability will only succeed, if we manage to reconfigure established daily practices. Fortunately, initiatives exist from which we can learn how to further sustainable transformation. The workshop brings together storytellers from different professional fields to share their stories on achieving change. The setting (collective story harvest) stimulates a thorough analysis of different approaches to change, possible stumbling blocks and measures to overcome such hurdles.

MARTINA HANDLER, Austrian Society for Environment and Technology

6–8 storytellers (change agents) from the fields of mobility, energy, democracy, home care etc. (tba)

Moderation: ASTRID REINPRECHT, Austrian Society for Environment and Technology

Organised by: Austrian Society for Environment and Technology



ART WORKSHOP: GROWING PICTURES

The artistic workshop or artistic “breakout” session is for everybody to participate! It doesn’t matter if you can draw or not, you love art or are afraid of it. The main themes of the conference are reflected in this simple workshop by using a special open artistic method. The method allows everybody to experience the conference topics individually and create his or her own artwork. Once you begin – you are caught up by the artistic flow. It is a special way to reflect the conference topics and transform them into another shape. Also, photographs of artwork will be collected and published in an art book afterwards.

Organised by: Wolfgang Weinlich, Highschool art teacher

Coffee break

16:15–18:15 Parallel Sessions

ARE MEDIA ENCOURAGING TRANSFORMATION?

In this session the role of media in Europe’s transformation will be discussed. How can media encourage people to actively take part in the transformation of the prevailing system towards a resilient and sustainable society? Representatives from media will be invited to deal with this topic.

Organised by: Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism

RESOURCE EFFICIENCY CONTRIBUTIONS TO DECARBONISATION

International reports and political programmes are more and more emphasizing the likely contribution of resource efficiency to climate protection in general and in particular to the achievement of the goals of the Paris Agreement. Nonetheless there are only few studies investigating this correlation on an economy wide scale. According to the UN International Resource Panel a positive correlation between climate and resource policies can be assumed. This means that an ambitious climate policy comes along with a significant decline in resource use and at the same time with positive effects on the economy. In this breakout session we will talk about this assumed relationship between climate and resource policies. European and international studies on this topic are going to be presented (UN International Resource Panel, G20, Germany, UK, Austria) and discussed.

PAUL EKINS, Director of Research, Professor in Energy and Environment Policy at the London – UCL Energy Institute, Member of the Expert Panel of the United Nations International Resource Panel

HELGA WEISZ, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research

NINA EISENMENGER, Institute of Social Ecology, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna

FRIEDRICH HINTERBERGER, President, Sustainable Research Institute Europe

Moderation: STEPHAN LUTTER, Senior Researcher, Institute for Ecological Economics, Vienna University of Economics and Business

Organised by: Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism, Institute for Social Ecology

BEST PRACTICE EXAMPLES

Cases of conclusive and convincing eco-innovative projects have been selected. These innovation projects are clearly aimed at promoting sustainable development. They have either achieved market entry or established a significant social position. Thus we invited the founders of these start-up companies to explain their vision, to discuss initial venture capital financing, the risks and operational hurdles including their causes and how to overcome them, and to demonstrate the potential for profit as well as important success factors. As all of these projects represent success stories, they will motivate new innovators and incentivise further innovation. In an interactive setting, participants will be in close contact with the speakers.

FLORIAN HOFFMANN, Founder and Managing Director of The DO School Innovation Lab, Germany

JULIAN PAUL MELCHIORRI, Founder and CEO of Arborea Ltd., United Kingdom

REET AUS, Founder and CEO of Upmade, Estonia

NKEMDILIM BEGHO, Founder and Managing Director of Future Software Resources (Futuresoft), Nigeria

OSHIK EFRATI, Founder and CEO of Homebiogas, Israel (tbc)

Moderation: PETER WOODWARD, Facilitator

Organised by: Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism



WEDNESDAY, 14 NOVEMBER 2018

SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATIONS IN RESEARCH AND POLITICS

The term “transformation” has gained much traction in recent years addressing problems of unsustainability. Yet, the term is used ambiguously and key issues of unsustainability remain unsolved. The session will therefore discuss different understandings of socio-ecological transformations as well as the role of transformation research within sciences and politics. It will address challenges that have to be faced when “growth in transition” is on the agenda of European societies.

BEATE LITTIG, Head of the Division Socio-Ecological Transformation Research, Institute for Advanced Studies

ULRICH BRAND, Professor of International Politics, University of Vienna

BARBARA COUDENHOVE-KALERGIE, works in the area “Education and Society” at the Federation of Austrian Industries

ALEXANDRA STRICKNER, Economist and Co-founder of Attac Austria

ELISABETH FREYTAG-RIGLER, Head of the EU Coordination Environment, Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism of Austria

Moderation: FRED LUKS, Head of Sustainability Competence Center, Vienna University of Economics and Business

Organised by: Network Socio-Ecological Transformation Research

RESPONSIBLE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION:

CO-OPERATION ALONG VALUE CHAINS IN CONFLICT AREAS

Since more than 15 years the Austrian environmental organisation GLOBAL 2000/Friends of the Earth Austria and REWE International AG have formed a unique partnership on pesticide reduction. In collaboration with the agricultural sector innovative methodology, alternative plant protection strategies and significant and consistent reduction of pesticide residues have been achieved. Solutions in areas where the necessity of change was common sense but implementation was lagging have been deployed. A partnership which can be considered as frontrunner on the issue of pesticide residues in conventional produce including transparency. Is collaboration along value chains a sustainable role model for future endeavors? What kind of framework is supportive of such partnerships?

TANJA DIETRICH HÜBNER, Head of Sustainability, REWE International AG

LEONORE GEWESSELER, Political Director, GLOBAL 2000/Friends of the Earth Austria, Member of the European Executive Board of Friends of the Earth

Moderation: KLAUS KASTENHOFER, MD, Independent Consultant

Organised by: REWE International AG and GLOBAL 2000

GOOD DEAL?

PRECONDITIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

Aim of this session is to present an overview of initiatives by the European Commission to foster ecologically and socially sustainable investments. In this setting we want to discuss supporting factors and barriers to greening the finance sector.

N.N., European Commission (tba)

“Current State of the EU Action Plan on Sustainable Finance”

ARMAND COLARD, ESG Plus GmbH & wasmachtmeinfonds.at (tbc)

“How Sustainable is the Austrian Fonds Landscape?”

LISA WISSENWASSER, Allianz Gruppe (tbc)

“Why Institutional Investors Turn Their Backs on Fossil Assets?”

CLEMENS PLÖCHL, Energy Changes and Katharina Muner-Sammer (tbc)

N.N., Austrian Society for Environment and Technology

“Sustainable Energy Financing Platform in Austria”

Moderation: GEORG GÜNSBERG, Policy and Strategy Advisor (tbc)

Organised by: Ecosocial Forum and Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism

BRINGING THE SDGS TO LIFE FROM STATUS QUO TO A SUSTAINABILITY TRANSFORMATION

This session explores options for effective implementation of the SDGs. Three presentations will provide (1) an EU-wide comparison of Austria's progress towards the SDGs, (2) an overview on Finland's innovative approaches to SD, and (3) a critical view from civil society. An interactive panel discussion involving representatives from social partners and businesses will then reflect on lessons for Austria and develop critical success factors for SDG implementation together with the audience.

MARKUS HAMETNER, Senior Researcher and Project Manager, Institute for Managing Sustainability, Vienna University of Economics and Business

ANNIKA LINDBLOM, Secretary-General, Finnish National Commission on Sustainable Development

THOMAS ALGE, Managing Director Ökobüro, Member of SDG Watch Austria

Panel:

N.N., Oesterreichische Kontrollbank (tba)

N.N., Simacek Facility (tba)

N.N., Management Group (tba)

FLORIAN WUKOVITSCH, Economist, Austrian Chamber of Labour

Moderation: N.N. (tba)

Organised by: Environment Agency Austria, Institute for Managing Sustainability, Vienna University of Economics and Business

THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN TRANSFORMATION SHARING EXPERIENCES WITH CHANGE PROCESSES

In public perception, decision makers are mainly men. Is it really mainly men who initiate change processes, drive them forward and lead them to success? Is there a difference between men and women in the approach, in the willingness to change? Are there success factors or obstacles that are more likely to confront men or women? Do men and women have different roles in change processes? This is what we want to work out in this workshop and therefore explicitly invite men and women.

Six to eight role models (women and men) from different areas of expertise related to sustainability, e.g: sustainable finance, agriculture, the energy or business sector exchange their stories on how they accomplished sustainable change. The setting of the workshop (collective story harvest) shall visualize different approaches to change.

Moderation: ASTRID REINPRECHT, Austrian Society for Environment and Technology

Organised by: Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism, Austrian Society for Environment and Technology

SPECIAL EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT

EUROPEAN BUSINESS AWARD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT CEREMONY EVENING GALA

Location: Palais Niederösterreich, Herrengasse 13, 1010 Vienna

Please note that you need to register separately to this evening event.

18:00–19:30



European Business Award for the Environment Ceremony
Hosted by the European Commission

19:30–22:30

GALA DINNER

Hosted by the Province of Lower Austria

The Gala Dinner will be opened by the Austrian Minister for Sustainability and Tourism and the Regional Governor of the Lower Austrian Government.

TOBIAS MORETTI (tbc)

Austrian Actor in Theatre and Movies

ELISABETH KÖSTINGER

Federal Minister for Sustainability and Tourism of Austria

JOHANNA MIKL-LEITNER

Regional Governor of the Lower Austrian Government

Organisers: Office of the Regional Government of Lower Austria, European Commission and Austrian Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism



THURSDAY, 15 NOVEMBER 2018

08:00–08:45 [Registration](#)

08:45–09:00 [Opening](#)

09:00–10:30 [Keynotes](#)

[CHRISTOPH BADELT](#)

Director of the Austrian Institute of Economic Research

[KATE RAWORTH](#)

Senior Visiting Research Associate at Oxford University's Environmental Change Institute;
Senior Associate at the Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership

[TIM JACKSON](#)

Professor of Sustainable Development at the University of Surrey;
Director of the Centre for the Understanding of Sustainable Prosperity (CUSP)

Moderation: FRED LUKS, Head of the Competence Center for Sustainability, Vienna University of Economics and Business

Coffee break

11:00–12:30 [Parallel Sessions](#)

[SPECIAL SESSION: WHERE PEOPLE MATTER](#)

With three speakers from varying fields of expertise this session will cover a wide range of issues in the context of human needs and constraints. The speakers will explore drivers of change and transformation like innovation, design and risk in the social and ecological field alike. The combination of speakers and their background guarantees an interesting and broad discourse on the topic.

[EMMA DEWBERRY](#)

Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics and the School of Engineering and Innovation at the Open University

[MICHAELA MOSER](#)

Lecturer of Social Ethics and Politics, Poverty, Quality of Life, Questions of Distribution at the Universities of Innsbruck, Salzburg, Graz, Winchester and the University of Economics in Vienna

[WILLIBALD CERNKO](#)

Chief Risk Officer, ERSTE Group Bank AG

Moderation: CORINNA MILBORN, Journalist and Moderator at PULS 4



FISCAL REFORM FOR A LOW CARBON TRANSITION

Environmental economics advocates for decades for market-based approaches to reduce negative environmental externalities. Climate change has given new impetus to use price-based instruments to curb CO₂ emissions. This session sheds light on experience from countries with carbon taxation regarding barriers and success factors and presents ex-post evaluation of the environmental, economic and social effects of a socio-ecological tax reform. First thoughts on whether long-termism of climate change would call for alternative taxation concepts (focusing on stocks) are discussed. In addition, simulation results for carbon taxes in Austria are presented.

MIKAEL SKOU ANDERSEN, Professor, Aarhus University

"Institutional Framework for a Socio-Ecological Tax Reform"

KURT VAN DENDER, Head of the Tax and Environment Unit, Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development

"Effects of a Socio-Ecological Tax Reform"

ANGELA KÖPPL, Senior Researcher, Austrian Institute of Economic Research

"First thoughts on New Approaches for Socio-Ecological Tax Reform"

CLAUDIA KETTNER-MARX, Researcher, Austrian Institute of Economic Research

"Carbon Taxes and Income Distribution: Simulation Results for Austria"

Moderation: MARGIT SCHRATZENSTALLER-ALTZINGER, Deputy Director, Austrian Institute of Economic Research

Organised by: Austrian Institute of Economic Research

TO LIVE BETTER WITH LESS

An interactive workshop on the topic of sufficiency will be organized by the Environment Agency Austria and the Vienna University of Economics and Business. The topic will be presented using two example topics: mobility and nutrition. At the beginning, the concept of sufficiency will be highlighted. Afterwards, three speakers per topic will give an insight into their approaches and their experiences. Based on these impulses, questions are further discussed in group works.

Moderation: INES OMANN, Senior Researcher, Institute for Ecological Economics, Vienna University of Economics and Business

Organised by: Environment Agency Austria, Vienna University of Economics and Business

COMPANIES TAKING ACTION TO MEET SDG 13

The UN Sustainable Development Goal #13 calls for urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. Together with the WWF CLIMATE GROUP, WWF Austria takes action with committed company leaders. This session highlights current challenges and solutions as well as ways in which companies can positively influence climate protection beyond their company borders. The session will also engage audience members to participate in the discussion through a dedicated app.

LUKAS MEYER, Professor for Philosophy, Section for Moral and Political Philosophy, University of Graz

ALEXANDER LIEDKE, Manager Sustainable Business and Markets, WWF Germany

SINEM DEMIR, Industrial Resource Efficiency Specialist, Finance Competitiveness and Innovation Global Practice, World Bank Group

MARTIN BRUCKNER, Chief Investment Officer, Spokesperson of the Board of Allianz Investmentbank AG and Board Member of Allianz Pensionskasse AG, Allianz Austria

IRENE JAKOBI, Head of Corporate Sustainability, A1 Telekom Austria Group

Moderation: GILLIAN MARTIN MEHERS, Capacity Development Practitioner, Bright Green Learning

Organised by: World Wide Fund For Nature Austria



THURSDAY, 15 NOVEMBER 2018

A POSITIVE POST-GROWTH SCENARIO FOR EUROPE THE X WAYS TO MAKE A POST-GROWTH SOCIETY WORK

A warning cry to humanity by 20.000 scientists says the Earth's biosphere is on the brink of collapse. Material extraction tripled in four decades. In Europe, GDP grows together with poverty. The 20.000 scientists call for divestments, ending fossil fuel subsidies and reducing wealth inequality. Saying NO is not enough – we need a positive post growth scenario to deal with growing resentment against rising inequalities and environmental damages that affect the quality of life.

KATE RAWORTH, Senior Visiting Research Associate, Oxford University's Environmental Change Institute, Senior Associate at the Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership

PATRICK TEN BRINK, EU Policy Director, European Environmental Bureau (EEB)

TONI RIBAS BRAVO, Ecology Group Coordinator, Barcelona en Comú

JOANNA YARROW, Head of Sustainable & Healthy Living, IKEA Group (tbc)

Organised by: European Environmental Bureau and EU European Environmental Bureau

Lunch

14:00–15:30 **Parallel Sessions**

SPECIAL SESSION ELABORATING THE “CALL FOR ACTION”

The “Call for Action” will be a résumé of the findings from the plenary sessions as well as from the interactive formats of the breakout sessions and will be transmitted to the European Commission. The draft of the “Call for Action” will be elaborated by the EEA together with the GiT Steering Committee and will be presented at the conference. Then, the findings of the conference will be discussed with all participants at this break-out session, in particular with the participating youth, and will be included in the paper. This “Call for Action” will comprise the main conclusions of the conference in matters of policy options and priorities to be set as next steps as well as an outlook to future activities of the Growth in Transition Initiative.

HANS BRUYNINCKX, Executive Director, European Environment Agency

Moderation: PETER WOODWARD, Facilitator

Organised by: Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism

THE SDGS AS COMPASS FOR TRANSFORMATION

The challenges related to achieving the UN SDGs require fundamental transformation processes. Whereas the SDGs have been globally accepted as political targets, more research is still needed in order to provide a knowledge base for their successful implementation. One of the pressing questions is how to deal with synergies and trade-offs between the different SDGs and the corresponding sub-targets as will be addressed in the keynote of this session. The panel discussion takes up these aspects and puts the focus on Austria.

Keynote:

NEBOJSA NAKICENOVIC, Deputy Director, The International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)

“Transformation for Sustainable Futures”

Panel:

ANDREA STOCKER, Researcher, Sustainable Research Institute Europe

DANIELA KLETZAN-SLAMANIG, Senior Researcher, Austrian Institute of Economic Research

WILLI HAAS, Senior Researcher, Institute of Social Ecology, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna

Moderation: BEATE LITTIG, Head of the Division Socio-Ecological Transformation Research, Institute for Advanced Studies

Organised by: Austrian Institute of Economic Research



BIOECONOMY – DESIGNED BY ALL OF US

While the term “bioeconomy” refers to an economy based on natural biotic resources, its exact meaning leaves ample room for interpretation, so that different people speak very different things when relating to the concept. Based on the used definition, the implications that arise vary significantly in their range. Together we want to collaborate on an environmentally-friendly and socially-inclusive approach to bioeconomy and offer a definition as a necessary precondition for a common understanding, which shall trigger a fruitful debate. Thereby we identify possible conflicts in the use of scarce resources and discuss challenges, risks as well as opportunities for sustainable pathways of the notion of a biobased economy. By asking participants to offer their individual contribution and understanding we hope to explore how a sustainable bioeconomy can look like.

ROSEMARIE STANGL, Professor of Soil Bioengineering and Landscape Construction,
University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna

Moderation: INES OMANN, Senior Researcher, Institute for Ecological Economics,
Vienna University of Economics and Business

*Organised by: Ecosocial Forum, Vienna University of Economics and Business, Centre
for Social Innovation, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna*

A JUST TRANSITION TO A LOW CARBON ECONOMY THE ROLE OF LABOUR AND CIVIL SOCIETY

EU leaders have not only agreed to cut greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40% (compared to 1990 levels) by 2030. The EU is also committed to reducing emissions by 80-95% by 2050. The road to a low-carbon economy will have major effects on workers' jobs, livelihoods and consumption patterns. To minimize hardship, international organisations such as ILO and ITUC make use of the framework of “just transition”. This requires social dialogue and the democratic participation of stakeholders.

SIGRID STAGL, Professor for Ecological Economics, Vienna University of Economics and
Business

Panel:

SYLVIA LEODOLTER, Chamber of Labour

PABLO SOLÓN ROMERO, Fundación Solón

JOHANNES WAHLMÜLLER, GLOBAL 2000

N.N., PRO-GE

Moderation: ALEXANDRA STRICKNER, Attac

Organised by: Chamber of Labour Vienna, Attac, GLOBAL 2000, PRO-GE

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT IN TRANSITION ADAPTATION OF PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION PATTERNS IN THE D-A-CH REGION

The aim of the session is to underline the need for a transformation of the built environment. Due to economic importance of the construction and real estate sector covering our human needs for shelter and infrastructure, the anthropogenic material flows and the high energy demand as well as the associated emissions, there is a great need for action in the direction of sustainable development. To tackle these challenges in the sense of the Global Grand Challenges, UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and the Paris Climate Agreement, a paradigm shift is needed in the construction industry (planners and contractors), on the part of procurers (public and private investors, real estate sector) as well as on the demand side (user needs and user behaviour).

JOSEFINA LINDBLOM, DG Environment, European Commission

THOMAS LÜTZKENDORF, Director of the Centre for Real Estate at Karlsruhe Institute of
Technology (KIT)

GUILLAUME HABERT, Chair of Sustainable Construction, ETH Zürich

AGLEE DEGROS, Graz University of Technology

N.N., or WERLE, Municipality Director City of Graz

GÜNTER GETZINGER, Professor, Graz University of Technology

*Organised by: Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Research, Graz University of
Technology, ETH Zürich, Karlsruher Institute of Technology (KIT) and the Alliance of
Sustainable Universities in Austria*

Coffee break



16:00–17:30 KEYNOTE, PRESENTATION OF “CALL FOR ACTION” AND CONCLUSION

Introduction

MARTINA SCHUSTER and ELISABETH FREYTAG-RIGLER

Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism of Austria

Keynote

BRENDA KING

Member of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and
Former President of the Sustainable Development Observatory

Presentation of “Call for Action”

HANS BRUYNINCKX

Executive Director of the European Environment Agency


Conclusion

FRANS TIMMERMANS

First Vice-President of the European Commission

Moderation: PETER WOODWARD, Facilitator

17:30 *End of Conference*



*The idea of a non-growing economy may be an anathema to an economist.
But the idea of a continually growing economy is an anathema to an ecologist.*

Tim Jackson, 2013





General Information

Registration

www.growthintransition.eu/conference2018/registration/

For further questions please contact:

a.vollmann@wachstumimwandel.at

Conference languages

English with translation in the plenary hall

Fee

No fees will be charged

Venue

AUSTRIA CENTER VIENNA

<https://www.acv.at>

Address

Bruno-Kreisky-Platz 1

A-1220 Wien

Location

7 minutes from Vienna's historic city centre by underground U1, station Kaisermühlen VIC

Accommodation

At the website you will find several recommended hotels which are easy to reach from the conference venue and have high environmental standards

<https://wachstumimwandel.at/conference2018/location/accommodation/>



We aim to host this event according to the principles of the Austrian Ecolabel for Green Meetings / Green Events