

COMMON GOODS

1. Collective domains: another way of owning

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| Keywords | Collective ownership communities |
| Description | Domains are a form of collective ownership and use of goods which is characterised as different and distinct from both the private and public property. The public interest for the sustainability of local production (agriculture, forestry, etc.) proves to be a stronger incentive to the preservation of a given set of resources than the private interest to the maximization of income, while the same social stability is based on the collective control of resource use on the lands of collective enjoyment, not subject to the phenomena of its abandonment of public goods because it related directly to the community that those goods use and administer. The legal regime of assets of collective domains is that of the unseizability of indivisibility, of “inusufruttibilità” and perpetual usufruct agro-silvo-pastoral. This scheme can be put at the base of a community's economy, having curated both diachronic synchronic interest that right-holders. The phenomenon comes from the custom in medieval times and was handed down and stored in a myriad of unique names, habits and customs. The theoretical framework of reference that unites them these institutions was based mainly on the theory of the commons developed by Elinor Ostrom. Today collective domains as primary tools to ensure the preservation and enhancement of national natural heritage as stable components of the environmental system as a source of renewable resources to exploit and use for the benefit of the local authorities of voters. ISTAT has recently listed ha 1,103,000 (7% of agricultural area), while the phenomenon is widespread in Europe. |
| Proponent(s) | Michele Filippini, Consulta nazionale della proprietà collettiva (Italy) |

2. Latin America as supply of environmental goods in XXI century

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| Keywords | Environmental goods, trade and externalities. |
| Description | Traditional models of growth have prevented a fair deal for biodiversity and for Amazon Eco-region. Today we should have an inclusive participatory model for social and economic equity which spans the five continents. The global economic organisation and integration of societies is only feasible through a new economy. There is a need to incorporate environmental supply and demand for services and allow for a market adjustment or a new form of trade, which can mitigate or reduce the damage in the aggregate the economic system, which has been created. The severe market externalities such as; the loss of species, global warming, the hole in the ozone layer and human migration resulting from natural disasters, wreak havoc today. Forests, flora and fauna native species, aesthetic beauty and the capacity of the eco-region should have a more prominent space than they presently do. The society of the 21st century needs to clarify its environmental assets, transfer them, value them and include them in fairer spaces of economy and society. Taking this view into account the traditional paradigms of economic growth, traditional development, poverty and wealth are beginning to change. Turning instead to the value of nature, man's participation in building his society, resiliency and intelligence to assign better structured evaluative parameters in order to get an economy more appropriate to current needs. |
| Proponent(s) | Juan Alonso Neira Simijaca and Claudia Isabel Cárdenas Flórez (Colombia) |

3. Soil as common good

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| Keywords | Soil consumption, reuse, sustainable management |
| Description | The aim of the workshop is to propose a discussion and a reflection on the necessity of rethinking of soil as a collective good. We start by looking at the soil consumption phenomenon which stems from the strong urbanization patterns of the last decades. We intend to analyze the problem by considering the recent trends and the dimensions taken in the last decades at the local, national and European levels, by investigating the possible causes (economics, social, and cultural) that have determined the huge urban growth of different nature (residential, infrastructural, productive and recreational), by focusing on the negative externalities related to green area and open space |

conversion, and to the constant and progressive loss of environmental, cultural and historical values intrinsically embedding in soil resource, by examining soil sealing and the threats generated on the hydro-geological system and finally by considering the strategic policies and actions oriented to soil conservation and sprawl containment. A number of different measures and policies affecting various intervention spheres may be adopted: more severe regulation and cogent urban planning instruments, the encouragement of brownfields' redevelopment and reusing, the revaluation of city and traditional, more compact neighborhood, the introduction of fiscal and economic measure, and the more recent innovative tradable planning permits for land-use control.

Proponent(s) Laura Fregolent and Stefania Tonin, Università IUAV di Venezia (Italy) together with Centro di Ricerca sul consumo di suolo (CRCS)

4. The fight against criminal powers for a new way of living and producing

Keywords Legality, anti-Mafia struggle, socio-economic self-determination

Description In recent decades, organized crime has increasingly become one of the most important economic players in the market and in contemporary society. Infiltrating with its logic in all institutions as enterprises, banks, finance, it has made it increasingly difficult to clearly distinguish between legal and illegal economy. At the same time in these years subjects and movements engaged in the fight against Mafia and against the culture of lawlessness have increased, demonstrating that the first step to get rid of the criminal powers is to reject passivity and to show the self-determination of a civil society that can organize and build social ties, economic and political logic of cooperation, responsibility, justice and solidarity. The intention of the proponents of this workshop is to raise awareness of some of the most significant experiences in this sense, in Italy and abroad: the reality of the agricultural cooperatives that work on land taken from the Mafia, the labor camps that bring thousands of young people from the north to learn about the lands of the south, the transformation of agricultural practices with the conversion to organic farming and the end of the black labor in the fields, and finally the excellent results achieved with some quality production such as wine. These are not only economic initiatives but a way to rebuild community ties and healthy social practices that are the foundation of a new society and of a new way of life and production, not only economically but also socially and politically equitable and sustainable.

Proponent(s) Alessandro Cobianchi, Raffaella Bolini, Michela Faccioli, Arci (Italy)

FOOD CULTURE AND SOVEREIGNTY

5. Changing Agriculture: Food Sovereignty of the territories in response to the energy crisis and the new world revolution

Keywords Food sovereignty, local economy, safeguarding common goods and knowledge

Description This proposal stems from the need to revise the current model of agriculture in the face of social, environmental and climatic emerging conditions. It is crucial to value the work of small local farmers, to reduce the climate and environmental impact; to work to decentralize the markets approaching the producer and the consumer; to question the common public policies. One dimension to which we would like to dedicate special attention is that related to the different scenarios for the future of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), thinking about how much different scenarios are – or are not – sustainable as far as the use of resources and the development of territories are concerned. From here opens a reflection on the democratic government of the territory and the need for new forms of grassroots participation. The fertile agricultural land and, with it, the farmers can be the center of a comprehensive program that is redefining economic models and social relations according to criteria of self-sustainability and of overcoming of quantitative growth, capable of ensuring the conservation of nonrenewable resources and avoiding exploitation of people. A new social-economic model can arise through the construction of local projects which will identify territory as a shared common good, experienced not like the object / container of economic activities, but like the "subject" that can produce wealth and cohesion. The return of the common goods lies in this strategic perspective and goes beyond the re-appropriation of the commons. It requires consideration of all social movements that already operate in defense of local resources and environmental sustainability as instances that express

the needs of the territory. To fulfill this task, it is necessary to have (food) Sovereignty, to decide what to do with local resources, not alone but together with the other subjects that have already been entitled to do so, such as local governments.

Proponent(s) AIAB Federale (Italy)

Proposed outcome - production of posters during the three sessions of the conference;
- production of videos to be displayed in the final plenary of the conference;
- return of proceedings of the workshop through the production of videoclips and interviews with the protagonists of the international conference on the value and role of agriculture in a Degrowth perspective.

6. Gardens, Edible Landscaping and Happiness Education

Keywords Education for the future, Sustainability, Happiness

Description Against the alienation induced by fashions and false values and in the name of the culture of the land and the pride of producing food, the last few years have seen the reawakening of a strong desire in citizens to re-establish a relationship not only with nature but also with themselves. Is cultivating a garden a privilege for country dwellers or is it a habit that can be extended to towns and cities? And what about the school garden experience?

The educational importance of school gardens (see the Slow Food 'Orto in Condotta' project) can strengthen the "collective" need to replace exclusively ornamental plants with plants that produce food (Edible Landscaping). Some scholars have suggested that this is one of the possible tools for reorganising the food system in relation to the urban environment (Francesco Ferrini, University of Florence).

Against the scenario of an education for the future that is not only sensitive to "what" and "how" to educate but also queries its own sustainability—economic, environmental and social—happiness education is one of the possible aims of these actions (gardens and Edible Landscaping). Hence an education for the future and happiness for both children and adults: as Virginia Wolf said, "One cannot think well, live well, sleep well, if one has not dined well.

Proponent(s) Valeria Cometti, Francesco Mele, Luca Miserere, Slow Food Italia – Education Office (Italy)

7. Reducing meat consumption, a core degrowth issue

Keywords Meat consumption, reduction, vegetarian/vegan

Description In 2009, the Thursday Veggie Day was launched successfully by the non-profit organization EVA in the Belgian city of Ghent. This weekly meat-free day benefitted from local authorities' support, (municipality of Ghent), which contributed to set-up a wide campaign in favour of this initiative, and especially by establishing a default veggie menu each Thursday within the 35 city school canteens. Thursday Veggie Day became quickly an exemplary initiative towards environment, health and animal suffering, reported by a huge media coverage worldwide which contributed to its dissemination in the four corners of the earth.

Concomitantly, meat (over)consumption tends more and more to be seen as highly tied with sustainable issues (FAO, 2006), thus implying alternative models for food production and consumption. Reducing meat consumption raises critical questions mostly related to matters of time, space and social norms.

The workshop proposes to address the issue of mainstreaming veggie food. How to convince people living in various contexts, of various cultures, etc. to commit to reducing meat consumption? What are the efficient arrangements to increase awareness of the impacts meat has on the environment and enact it through meat-free food habits? How to broaden meat-free habits in time and space or, in other words, to mainstream them? Inseparably, how to adjust this view to people from developing countries who aspire to western lifestyles? What are the possible ways to foster such initiative towards sustainability? For instance, what are the linkages to be made with alternative food supply models like community supported agriculture and slow food?

Proponent(s) Ariane Debourdeau, Centre d'Études du Développement Durable (CEDD), Grégoire Wallenborn Centre d'Études du Développement Durable, Tobias Leenaert, Ethisch Vegetarisch Alternatief (EVA), Inge Huybrechts, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (Belgium).

LIFE STYLES

8. Reuse practices and environmental impact assessment

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| Keywords | Reuse, energy saving, impact assessment |
| Description | <p>The success of local street markets, charity shops and new-life reuse business demonstrate that reuse practice is widely spreading among Italy and Europe. Reuse has a strong economic impact and increased awareness of reducing wastage (consumers must know that an item can be used more than once and longer than industries make them believe), reuse means also reducing the environmental impact reducing the amount of waste. How can we describe the environmental impact assessment? Which tools and indicators are needed to describe reuse? Attitudes changing and simple living as a reaction to materialism and conspicuous consumption is a cultural consequence of reuse besides the economic and commercial impact. The environmental and cultural evaluation is more than a good practice, it's a surplus value that can be read in a political way to enhance reuse activities, public bodies and local authorities interested in that practices. The objects of the workshops are studying and analyzing existing good practices and specifying guidelines and policy for reuse workers.</p> |
| Proponent(s) | Mani Tese/Giosuè De Salvo (Italy) |
| Proposed outcome | Activation of exchanging or working networks / campaigning. |

9. From theory to practice: how to monitor the change in lifestyle

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| Keywords | Lifestyle, monitoring, paradigm |
| Description | <p>The life-style of citizens of the 'First World' is considered to be unsustainable, a representation of an unfair distribution of resources and a role-model that sees man driven purely by his own selfishness in a desperate quest for immediate compulsive satisfaction through his own material needs.</p> <p>A change of life-style is felt by many to be necessary and we are witnessing hopeful signs of a rapid decolonization of the social imaginary. It would seem to be useful to reflect a moment on other types of cohabitation that put ethics, solidarity and an alternative concept of well-being as a motor behind social relations. In the style and the experience of the campaign 'Bilanci di Giustizia' we would like to integrate these concepts into everyday practice. Therefore we propose practical instruments that can help monitor both the changes in life-style and the transition phases between various model types. The objective behind this proposal of these instruments is to help the single person, family or group to gauge their own everyday change.</p> |
| Proponent(s) | Silvia Rosi Pozzi (Italy) |

10. Coordinated Retreat from Civilization

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| Keywords | Withdrawal; Restoration; Demolition |
| Description | <p>A systematic, worldwide withdrawal is sketched. Starting from the least anthropogenically altered regions, retreat plans with withdrawal directions and time-plans are considered. Like in war times, commandeering of trucks, machines and devices suitable for demolition are calculated estimating the resulting retreat speed. Lows get filled by purified environmentally harmless basic production resources gained through recycling methods. United Nations Charter Art. 77c provides a juridical tool to administer the restored zones freed of national sovereignty: „The trusteeship system shall apply to such territories in the following categories as may be placed thereunder by means of trusteeship agreements: [...] c. territories voluntarily placed under the system by states responsible for their administration.“ Concentrating within the diminishing population those not engaged in demolition and recycling activities in coastal areas opens space for a withdrawal economy gratifying documented progresses in demolition.</p> |
| Proponent(s) | Haimo Schulz-Meinem (Germany) |

URBANISM AND HOUSING

11. Degrowth in Big Cities

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| Keywords | Big cities, planning, degrowth, vision, obstacles |
| Description | <p>In the growth paradigm, cities, especially big ones have played an important role in promoting competitiveness and creating economic growth against the background of globalization. They form the growth centers at regional, national and international levels. A proposed degrowth paradigm would require the big cities to convert their conventional role to facilitating the achievement of planned economic decline in a socially sustainable way. This applies to big cities in both developed and developing countries. This workshop deals with the issues pertinent to degrowth in big cities, including the following major dimensions:</p> <p>1) <i>What is to degrow in big cities?</i></p> <p>A 'selective degrowth' in line with the goals of sustainable degrowth should be discussed. This could include degrowth in the size of the population, in urban sprawl, in high-speed transport infrastructure, in consumption of cars, in the per capita consumption of dwellings and other material items, in export and import, etc. However, there should arguably be growth in social services and welfare in order to meet the needs of vulnerable segments of the population in big cities, including affordable housing, health care, education, etc.</p> <p>2) <i>What is the vision of degrowth in big cities?</i></p> <p>The vision of economic degrowth is often associated with localized economy which is small and highly self-sufficient under social control. This vision is to some extent associated with shrinking cities, slow cities, etc. How to achieve the goal of localized economy democratically in different cultural and political contexts by employing the existing organizations and institutional innovations can be discussed. The impacts and consequences of economic localization in the global north on the developing countries (including the big cities) should be discussed since most emerging countries have relied on export as a major source of domestic economic growth. In developing countries, degrowth in big cities should accompany decentralization and relocation of economic growth to those small and medium cities in impoverished regions where growth is still necessary for a better living.</p> <p>3) <i>How to plan for degrowth in big cities?</i></p> <p>A departure from the growth paradigm to degrowth requires reframing planning rationality and spatial logics. In Western countries, the traditional role of planning in attracting capital and industries under the domination of economic rationality should be shifted to containing growth and promoting social development. In developing countries, degrowth in big cities may give some breathing space to the development of small cities. This requires a coordinated and synergetic regional planning which aims at weakening the status of big cities and providing development opportunities for other regions. Proper planning strategies should be in place to obtain high efficiency in the process of urban growth of the small and medium-sized cities.</p> <p>4) <i>What are the obstacles for degrowth in big cities?</i></p> <p>In a circumstance dominated by neo-liberal thinking, a planned degrowth in big cities perhaps need more central power. The challenges from current political, social and economic institutions need to be identified and dealt with in order to reach a socially sustainable degrowth.</p> |
| Proponent(s) | Jin Xue (Denmark), Petter Næss (Denmark), Finn Arler (Denmark), Karl Georg Høyer (Norway) |
| Proposed outcome | The theme of the workshop proposal has a special focus on the big cities and planning issues. In addition, the proposal attempts to extend the degrowth debates to developing countries, which have largely been ignored in the international degrowth debates. Since there is a considerable diversity of big cities in the world, participants from different regions can enrich the discussion on this topic. The expected outcomes are calls for a series of research agendas on this topic. |

12. Living close and in solidarity. Community of families, gift economy and relationships rebuilding

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| Keywords | Relationships, community, solidarity, alternative economy. |
| Description | In the contemporary metropolis we are increasingly used to living in isolation from each other. The old neighborhood networks and the village community have vanished under the pressure of the |

processes of disintegration and individualization of contemporary societies and lifestyles based on the closeness between people and reciprocity are now exceptions. The apartment buildings or neighborhoods are no longer significant social units and we often barely know who lives in our own building. Jealous to protect our privacy from the prying eyes and intrusive judgments of the old "community" we have also lost the security and the solidarity these networks ensured.

In recent years, however - as our society is undergoing a profound crisis, which was first of sense, but is now becoming also material – are re-emerging experience of sharing and solidarity, through new forms of communal or proximity living: co-housing, solidarity condominiums, eco-villages, as well as neighborhood networks. These experiences are aimed at rebuilding the social bonds through paths based on mutual help among people that try to operate simultaneously in the economic and environmental as well as on the social. In the most successful experiences, in fact, in addition to creating forms of solidarity these attempts make it possible - through the strengthening of relations and the common use of space, goods, services and resources - a significant cost savings and less environmental impact. Solidarity, sharing, simplicity, hospitality, sustainability, are some of the values around which bloom these attempts to live the everyday differently, experiences that can be a key piece in the prospect of a possible transition toward degrowth.

Proponent(s) Luigi Giario, Bruno Volpi, Roberto Burlando, Dalma Domenechini (Italy)

13. Saving by Sharing - the potential for cohousing to contribute to sustainable lifestyles

Keywords Cohousing, community, lifestyles

Description Background: Since the 1960s housing with shared spaces and communal facilities have developed in Denmark, the Netherlands, Germany, Sweden, Australia and some other countries. More recently cohousing has gained momentum in the USA, Canada, UK, Belgium, Italy, Japan and other countries. Besides the goal to create a sense of community and promote collaboration among residents, the aim to promote sustainable ways of living has become an important part of cohousing. In 2010 the first ever International Collaborative Housing Conference was held in Stockholm with 150 participants from 20 countries. Later a EU funded project was carried out on the theme of "Experimentcity: collaborative housing, diversity, sustainable cities" under the EU programme *Active Civil Society in Europe*, coordinated by the *Institute for Creative Sustainability* in Berlin. The project comprised seven partners (+ three affiliated) in six countries (nine including the affiliated partners) and resulted in two major conferences (Berlin October 2010 and Milano March 2011), a report and a web portal (<http://experimentcity.net/en>). At the second Degrowth conference in Barcelona a workshop on cohousing was organised by Matthieu Liethaert. The idea is to follow up the Barcelona, Stockholm, Berlin and Milano conferences with a special focus on the actual environmental saving in cohousing combined with a discussion about the potential for collaborative efforts within the field of housing and urban design.

Proponent(s) Dick Urban Vestbro (Sweden)

Proposed outcome It is suggested that all participants are asked before and during the workshop to fill in a short questionnaire about items that can be shared in cohousing (from meals, guest rooms and child care to composting, subscriptions and tools). On the basis of the compiled questionnaires and discussions at the workshop a report is to be made about the existent and potential benefits of cohousing with respect to ecological, economic and social sustainability.

ENVIRONMENT, ECOLOGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

14. Approaches to the ecology: which value for natural goods?

Keywords Capitalist ecology, anthropocentrism, biocentrism.

Description Current economy assigns natural goods value only insofar as they are useful for the market, that is, insofar as they produce money. That does not consider all the natural processes allowing life to exist on this planet. Attempts to assign these processes a monetary value were made: the corresponding figure is enormous, and it is anyway partial. Another approach to ecology is that of assessing the usage value of natural goods: it is important to respond to human needs, the economic ones, but also primary needs, such as feeding oneself or breathing, and secondary

needs, such as aesthetic or recreational. Nature's complexity and diversity are not assessed. It is not easy to fully understand how living beings and non-living matter interact to create the conditions for life on Earth (including our own life). Seemingly unuseful beings may be indirectly essential to our survival. A third approach to ecology is to see that nature has its own intrinsic value, that is, it is important just because it exists. This latter approach takes all aspects of nature into account, and it helps understand the best ways to safeguard it, and which of these should be used for each being, population or ecosystem examined.

In this workshop we would thus analyse these three approaches, last one most closely, which assigns a higher importance to nature and to human beings as one part of nature. Degrowth movement should, in our opinion, privilege this approach.

Proponent(s) Fedra Mincio (Italy)

15. Degrowth, landscape and ecological sustainability

Keywords Common roots, action, planning

Description Landscape is a strategic resource for sustainable local development and *Cultural Routes* are "a cultural infrastructure" able to redefine the level of degrowth and ecological sustainability based on natural, human and cultural resources. The landscape and cultural heritage of ancient common roots, like Via Francigena, were created before political definition of contemporary Europe: forested and rural landscapes, upland regions and mountains systems provide a correct interpretation of the new dimension of landscape ecology.

Proponent(s) Virginio Bettini, Leonardo Filesì, Pippo Gianoni, Leonardo Marotta, Università IUAV di Venezia (Italy)

16. Degrowth and/or sustainable human development

Keywords Sustainable human development, well-being, environmental constraints

Description Models of human development traditionally focus on enhancing human capital as a major contributor to sustainable development. However, merely focusing on expanding freedoms and capabilities clearly conflicts with the material constraints of the ecosphere. Exceeding these biophysical limits has a harmful effect on people's quality of life: climate change, resource depletion, and biodiversity loss already affect current people, and future people are expected to suffer most from its harmful impacts. This clearly relates to the issue of how to distribute the global commons fairly – spatially and intertemporally. That is, to the extent that current development policies – in terms of expanding people's freedoms and capabilities – exacerbate climate change, they will impair people's capabilities, now and in the future. This workshop aims at developing an approach to sustainable human development that imagines the idea of well-being in terms of capabilities – especially enhancing the quality of life of the currently most deprived – within a framework that takes the biophysical limits of our natural environment as its point of departure. There are clearly constraints to the freedoms people can enjoy, but the question remains as to how to define these limitations fairly. We welcome proposals that focus on ethical aspects of the relationship between social and environmental justice. How can we fairly and sustainably manage and redistribute the global commons? In which ways can degrowth be reconciled with well-being? How can we achieve social equity today in terms of enhanced capabilities, without exceeding the biophysical limits of the natural environment?

Proponent(s) Wouter Peeters, Sigrid Sterckx, Dree University of Brussels (Belgium)

Proposed outcome The presentations as well as a summary of the discussion will be published online.

17. Degrowth and Ecocriticism: an Ecological Point of View on Literature and the Arts

Keywords Imagery, ecosystems, arts

Description The environmental crisis is beginning to find a place even in literary texts and other kinds of art works. In a parallel way, a new area of literary, artistic and cultural studies is growing globally, under the name of Ecocriticism. Ecocriticism reads texts proposing some general questions: what do novels, comics, poems, theatre plays..., those made today as well as those from other epochs, tell us about the relationship between human society and ecosystems? And what does

environmental consciousness tell us about the works we read? Such questions do not seek confirmations or conformity to esthetic norms or ideologies: they aim instead at a critical and a creative point of view that might connect art, history and nature, in an epoch of transition. All this implies a perspective that goes perhaps beyond that of “commons”, into a more complex and holistic vision of “ecosystems”. The notion of degrowth, in its widest sense of revision of the contemporary relationship between humans and ecosystems, could give Ecocriticism its most apt ideological framework in its textual work. What could be the implications of such a perspective, for both the arts and the Degrowth movement?

Proponent(s) Marco De Bernardo, Circolo di ecocritica di Roma (Italy)

Proposed outcome Paper and on line publication; activation of an exchanging and working network.

DEGROWTH: ROOTS AND GRAFTS

18. The near and far cultural sources of degrowth

Keywords Degrowth, deep ecology, ecocentrism

Description The purpose of the seminar is to raise awareness of the fact that the most important contents of Degrowth cannot be reduced to niche and bizarre ideas: on the contrary, it is to make visible the great cultural heritage that supports these ideas, which implies both the latest sources, but also the most distant, which have important connections, even if sometimes not explicit, with a vision of Degrowth. Within the workshop, besides the 'canonical' authors (I. Illich), we propose to focus on some authors and schools of thought which are sometimes a bit underestimated in the Degrowth debate: for example, R. Panikkar, T. Terzani, Z. Bauman, J. Baudrillard, some parts of Greek philosophy, deep ecology, some critics of the mechanistic paradigm ...

Proponent(s) Associazione eco-filosofica (Italy)

19. The sexual economy of growth: degrowth meets gender difference

Keywords Gender, difference, freedom

Description The symbolic, cultural and social issues concerning the relations between sexes are inextricably intertwined with the material dimensions, with the forms of production, with the organization of work and consumption. We are conscious that building new relationships between genders and generations means to reinvent the same material organization of our society by challenging the exploitation of wage and non-wage labor, by rejecting the commodification of life, bodies and relationships. It means to contrast a form of market that takes advantage and plays a stereotyped imaginary of the female body and the male desire to sell anything. It means to oppose the reduction of body to ownership, of sexuality to consumption, in an ever more violent and indifferent market that put up for sale even procreation and care. So it means to rethink symbolically and in practice the balance between production and reproduction, it means to revalue and to make room for care, for social relations, for gift, defending the non-monetary or non-instrumental forms of exchange. It means, in short, to engage a shift to sustainable lifestyles and to a society no longer dependent on growth and on continued instrumental production of needs. On the other hand, in order to enable another kind of work, more humane and respectful, another form of production, more responsible and sustainable, another idea of the territory, of its resources and public goods in our daily lives, we need to reinvent a new way of being men and women, fathers and mothers, a different way to establish family relationships and projects. It is necessary to rethink, even symbolically, the connection between the everyday and domestic dimensions of our relations and the "political invention" of another model of well-being, and of another relationship between the sexes.

Proponent(s) Marco Deriu, University of Parma/Maschile Plurale (Italy)

20. Good living/buen vivir: towards a democracy of the earth

Keywords Buen vivir, societies in movement, crises

Description Humanity is now immersed in an unprecedented crisis, the causes of which require in-depth investigation. Unsustainable models of political and social development have proven inadequate and have raised important questions regarding the very survival of mankind. Is there an alternative

to the capitalist model? Is it feasible to improve the lives of billions of people kept on the margins? Can economic development be combined with environmental protection? Could a new social contract be experimented with and forms of representation be rethought? In these times concepts and tools such as reformism and revolution are increasingly applied to complex and interdependent issues, resulting in another great paradox: crucial questions are being raised, but responses are extremely weak. From Latin America to Asia, Africa, and in many communities and territories of the North, environmental and social conflicts have created the conditions for the formation of a new field. Through deliberative democracy and collective accountability, the "sociology of restraint" works to construct a new paradigm of civilization in harmony with nature, based on Buen vivir. Popular education, self-governance, horizontality, social justice, mutualism, creativity and decolonization of power are tools and practices that have been mobilised through the Ecologism of Poor to build a Democracy of the Earth. The role played by indigenous movements and others committed to the defense of common goods and citizens' rights highlights the breach of social contract and the need to redefine it in line with new conditions imposed by the crisis.

Proponent(s) Giuseppe De Marzo, Lucie Greyl, Associazione A Sud (Italy)
 Proposed outcome Written report to be published online; video of workshop (to be confirmed)

FRIDAY 21 – WORK

FINANCIAL CRISIS, DEBT AND ALTERNATIVES

21. Degrowth, the financial crisis of public economies and local currencies

Keywords Systemic crises and local currencies; alternative finance for care of commons; implementation problems.

Description Financial crises and increasing public and private debt intensify the exploitation of resources, especially labour, but can favour new forms of economic valorisation, more attentive towards the environment, labour and people. Also in the degrowth movement, it has long been known that local currencies can play an important role in economic and political reconstruction: they can favour more responsible, shared and participated valorisation of the commons, develop alternative forms of finance for public economies and social services, and reconcile economics, political communities and territory. However it is first necessary to identify the limits and constraints that have prevented movements proposing new economic and monetary forms from growing and from developing projects, with a firm foundation in common experience, able to influence the institutional dimension of politics and economics. The proposed workshop on Local Currencies should be a moment of common reflection on the opportunities created by the crisis but also on more important cultural, economic, legal and fiscal problems that have prevented solid widespread construction of sustainable local currencies and new economies based on principles of care. A special look at the synergies and cooperative (even competitive) relationships that can be established with public services and economic policies in different regional and institutional levels is also necessary.

Proponent(s) Maurizio Ruzzene, Associazione Triveneta per la Decrescita (Italy)

22. Degrowth, Debts and Money Creation: the B plan?

Keywords Debt, money creation, limit to growth

Description In 2008 we faced a world economic crisis. To avoid global bankruptcy of the banks, public money was created to support them. Three years later, again we face a new crisis. This time we have to save Sovereign States. First, among others, Greece, and this summer the world's dominant economy, the United States of America, and now Spain, Portugal, Italy, Hungary and France. Mainstream economists and political parties explain that there are no alternatives: we need austerity plans after austerity plans and should pray for the return of economic growth! Meanwhile, we are facing an environmental crisis; global change, biodiversity loss, peak oil and peak everything. We also face regular industrial catastrophes - the red mud spill here in Hungary, the nuclear nightmare in Japan, Deepwater and the oil pollution in gulf of Mexico... We also face a

culture of consumerism, social impacts from the austerity plans and a political crisis. Based on the works, among others, of Latouche, Cochet and in particular Richard Heinberg and his last book, the end of Growth, the main objectives of this workshop would be to discuss about this main issues:

- Capitalism needs Growth to survive.
- There are limits to Growth.
- Are the economic and financial crises we are facing connected to peak oil and peak everything?
- What are the solutions against this economic crisis and also all the other crises?

Proponent(s) Vincent Liegey, French Degrowth Movement (France)

Proposed outcome To debate and develop proposals about:

- Money Creation? Nationalization of central banks, banks? How?
- Debt? Should we cancel them? Partly, totally? Reimburse them?
- The myth of reflation and Growth or transition to new economic systems?

23. Forms, knowledges and values of the solidarity economics

Keywords social enterprise, solidarity, community

Description The transition towards "degrowth society" involves the necessity to take the satisfaction of basic needs away from the logic of the capitalistic market (Polany). This new paradigm must be based on four points:

- the "rediscovery" of relations between business activities and communities. The community organizes itself to achieve, using local resources, energy independence and food sovereignty;
- new relationships between members of communities based on shared values, reciprocity and cooperation;
- increase the supply of "commons" that have been stolen from private and public sectors to promote the welfare of the community;
- the gradual approach between producers and consumers.

In this context we should reflect on characteristics, organization, roles, governance of social enterprises that develop various economic activities, within each local situation (district, bioregion, etc..). From the comparison between the good practices implemented so far and the four points described, we can try to bring out a new theory and a new experience of social enterprise in order to free us, gradually, from the conceptual frame of the 'capitalist business' (efficiency, profitability, governance, etc..), both daughter and mother of the *homo economicus* paradigm.

Proponent(s) Coop IRIS Bio, Ferruccio Nilia (Italy)

24. Entropy Efficiency Accounting: the imaginary database for well-defined 'Degrowth Policies'

Keywords GDP, entropy, accounting

Description Degrowth (decroissance) is seen in the popular imagination as a political strategy (promoted by the 'Greens') to reduce the income and wealth of the general population. This, indeed, is demonstrated in the statistical methods applied to construct the database of production, consumption and capital accumulation in the System of National Accounts, (SNA). The Workshop starts with the premise that the SNA, in itself, is a political instrument to link the individual well-being with the growth of the market economy. Thus, growth and well-being are linked in the iconic statistic of GDP. While there have been several political expressions to delink GDP with the well-being of the Nation, these sentiments were soon forgotten under the current economic crisis, precipitated by the (private) banking/financial crisis of 2007/08, and followed by the (public) financial/debt crisis of today. The working proposition of the Workshop assumes that the present crisis, while event driven, is caused, and thus repeated if not corrected, by phase-change state-conditions described by the qualitative properties of, and absolute limits to, fixed, and circulating, economic, social and natural capital. In other words, qualitative degradations of social and natural systems ascribed to the limit function entailed by the rate of 'entropy production,' first reached in high consumption societies, but soon

followed, if left unchecked, by low income, high population, societies. The Workshop will consider the feasibility of developing a set of entropy efficiency accounts of production, consumption, and capital accumulation. First, to complement the SNA, (mirror image of GDP) and second, to replace the (linear) SNA with an integrated (nonlinear) System of Accounts for Global Entropy Production, (SAGE-P). The Workshop would be conducted in a non-technical language exploring the conceptual and scientific foundations of Georgescu-Roegen's Flow-Fund Model, (FFM), from which the basic accounts of SAGE-P are constructed. The essential point of the Workshop is to examine the 'degrowth thesis' in terms of the conservation (or sustainability) of economic, social and ecological functions within a framework of hierarchically-structured values. The meta-language of the FFM includes, inter alia, complex analytical structures supported by adaptive logics, Bayesian statistics and computerised algorithms of processes, which ultimately enable (hierarchically-valued nested mapping of the: Ecosphere → [Sociosphere → (Econosphere)]. The Workshop includes a series of slides describing the structure, the methodology and the data requirements of SAGE-P. The end-product is not only an assessment of the feasibility of entropy efficiency accounting, but an acknowledgement of the shift in paradigm of macroaccounting from linear, to nonlinear, description of processes that may be represented by continuous space-time databases normalised in the Digital Age.

Proponent(s) Anthony Friend (Canada)

JOB, INCOME AND LEISURE

25. Unconditional Autonomy Allowance with a fixed maximum income

Keywords Protections, Limits, Transition

Description In the last four years, inside the French Degrowth movement, we started to develop a social and economic tool able to initiate and support a democratic transition towards sustainable and desirable societies based on Degrowth. These discussions and thoughts surrounded the idea of basic income, resource caps, re-localisation, resource freedom for a "good" use, etc.

Hence, we proposed a redistribution of resources through the creation of the Unconditional Autonomy Allowance (Dotation Inconditionnelle d'Autonomie) necessarily coupled with a fixed maximum income. The allowance is designed to re-localise the economy whilst preserving national and international solidarities, to gain emancipation from the central value of "work" associated with capitalism, in order to achieve self-management, food and energy self-sufficiencies by getting out of the dependence onto non-renewable resources, mainly oil, and to re-engage citizens' participation in politics. This allowance would apply from birth to death unconditionally; it covers free use of energy, water and food, free access (food, education, health, transport) and the creation of local non speculative currencies. It would also be an economic tool to get rid of the debts and the speculation in creating new local, social and non-speculative economic systems. It could also initiate a re-politicization of the society with a higher participation.

The main objectives of this workshop would be:

- To present this proposal in details.
- To discuss and criticize the relevancy of such a proposal.

Proponent(s) Vincent Liegey, French Degrowth Movement (France)

Proposed outcome 1) To get a critical and constructive feedback about this proposal developed by the French Degrowth Movement.

2) To create a participatory and open working group dealing with such economic and social tools and proposals able to help, initiate and support a transition to sustainable and desirable societies.

26. Work less, earn less, be richer

Keywords Leisure Time, Part Time, Responsible Citizenship

Description Economic degrowth, namely the creation of a market system based not on the destructive consumption and continuous replacement of durable goods with fewer and fewer new goods which are even less durable, is not possible without a total reorganization of the production system, and must strike a new balance between production, use of factors of production and consumption. To

make this new balance must mean to produce less and better, which -unless you decide to reduce the productivity deliberately- has the consequence of a reduced need for hours of work. This inevitably involves a drastic reduction in the time devoted to paid employment per capita and a proportional reduction of income (which is no longer necessary as a result of a reduced need for new products). In this context, a central theme becomes the use of "free" time which, of course, will not be used for "expensive entertainment" but used instead on processes of self produced economy and of gift and relationship economy. The workshop wants to look on the one hand at whether and what changes to the production system are necessary and the economic context in the massive increase of part-time jobs and, secondly, to probe the social consequences of a lifestyle in which the time devoted to paid work is significantly reduced. Issues that are proposed for discussion:

1. Since it is demonstrated that voluntary part-time workers have higher productivity, which seeks to identify ways to "convince" the production system to encourage more part-time volunteers.

2. Considering that an important share of the public debt stems from the need to provide services that counteract the decreased availability of time for workers, aims to evaluate whether the possible reduction in the gross domestic product as a result of the massive recourse to Part Time would be more or less than proportional to the reduction of public debt resulting from the increased availability of time.

3. Since the widespread emergence of part-time work would result in a consequent increase in leisure time, is to analyze what effect this would have on the medium term on community life with particular reference to the recovery of social, political and civic engagement and conviviality

Proponent(s) Aniello De Padova (Italy)

27. Leisure in rich developed countries: part of the problem or part of the solution in achieving a sustainable development?

Keywords Leisure consumption, sustainable development, economic growth

Description Consumers' contributions to sustainable development is a well developed topic, but so far both research and policy making has paid relatively little attention to the environmental impacts of leisure consumption. In this debate we can identify two opposing theoretical positions. (1) More leisure time will lead to less environmental problems, because (a) more leisure time means less working time and less time to earn money - thus less consumption, (b) participation more in outdoor recreation activities encourages greater environmental awareness, which may increase the public support of an ambitious environmental policy, and (c) during our leisure time we are particularly open to new ideas, and thus in the position of picking up and learn new and more sustainable consumption habits which can be transferred to the everyday sphere of consumption. (2) During leisure time people take time "off" from their environmental attitudes as well as their daily activities, thus leading to a particularly unsustainable pattern of leisure consumption. Embedded in this second theoretical position is that of assigning leisure consumption an important role of "greasing" the economy to still be able to grow.

Proponent(s) Carlo Aall (Norway)

Proposed outcome The two positions outlined above give grounds for developing very different strategies for reducing the negative environmental impacts of leisure consumption. This workshop will contribute to broadening the focus in current debates on consumption and sustainable development within the context of rich Western countries to include leisure consumption

EQUITY, INCLUSION AND SOCIAL RIGHTS

28. Green, red, individual or social? Degrowth, the challenge of social justice and trade unions

Keywords Solidarity, unions, social movements

Description The other possible world in the debates among degrowth movements is often envisioned in terms of individual paths to simplicity. Individual happiness is thus taken as a substitute for a social conception of the good life - the good life as an entitlement, which is negotiated within a whole society. Solidarity might thus risk being confined in the space of spontaneous communities

(neighborhood, local networks, family) and transformation strategies tend to neglect social collective actors. Furthermore, the ecological question with its limiting time frame is sometimes pitted against social concerns.

Although we agree that the role of alternative ways of being in common on the local level are fundamental, we claim that the question of solidarity and of a social-ecological transformation has to be discussed on a societal level. This is where workers unions have been playing an important historical role. However, trade unions have so far - for a variety of reasons - not been engaged in the degrowth movement, and there were only small attempts to engage in a dialogue on questions posed by degrowth. In this workshop we want to discuss the possibility of degrowth scenarios and ways of transformation that can built a common ground with actors of trade unions and social movements in general for common social struggles.

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| Proponent(s) | Andrea Vetter, Matthias Schmelzer, Barbara Muraca, ATTAC (Germany) |
| Proposed outcome | Discussing the tension between individualistic and societal approaches to degrowth; launching a more realistic debate on power relations and transformation strategies; discussing with trade unions and other social agents a common project of social-ecological transformation |

29. Welfare and degrowth: developing a caring system for the elderly

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| Keywords | Sustainability, demography, welfare state |
| Description | Recent contributions (ex. Liao 2010) have shown the effects of current demography transition on economic growth, stressing that an aging population is less able to maintain the adequate path of human capital accumulation needed to develop. This will reduce the amount of resources for welfare programs in general. Pension systems are under review in many developed countries and we should also consider that any further step in medical treatment increases the overall economic cost of aging. And this happens while the entire world population continuous to grow, becoming older (Lam, 2011). Therefore, in a degrowing society with fewer material resources to manage, the question is on the process of reorganization of the entire system of social cares. This process, we argue, should start from a revision of the role of elderly in our society and from a change in the pension system and in the health care programs. Main topics for discussions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Demographic distribution and cost of welfare system in different countries; ▪ A comparison between different welfare systems, focusing especially on how pensions and health care programs are funded; ▪ The role of elderly in developed society: history and evolution; ▪ Sustainability in the long term of proposed solutions; ▪ A description of the transition path from current state to a degrowth care system |
| Proponent(s) | Paolo Ermano, Facoltà di Economia, Università di Udine (Italy) |

30. Health and Degrowth

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| Keywords | Health, medicine, imaginary. |
| Description | The myth of growth has pervaded every aspect of our society and our imaginary. Obviously the concept of Health is not immune from the influence of this totalitarian paradigm. Unfortunately, in spite of the words of caveat written by Ivan Illich, more than 30 years ago, the following concept is not adequately understood: "Increasing and irreparable damage accompanies present industrial expansion in all sectors. In medicine, this damage appears as iatrogenesis." We believe that there is a need to go beyond the myths about health and medicine created by the ideology of growth, with the purpose of reconsidering the concepts of health and illness according to the degrowth model. This process would have vast consequences on the medical practice. Therefore we propose a discussion focused on three main points: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) To underline the negative influences of the growth ideology on the health system, particularly regarding clinical, psychological, social and cultural aspects. |

b) To promote a re-definition of the concepts of health and medicine in the vast conceptual frame of degrowth.

c) To promote projects in order to investigate and propose appropriate solutions

Furthermore, we suggest 4 main topics for a subsequent discussion:

1) Health promotion and disease prevention

2) Medicine ("Medical consumerism"; Disease-mongering; Drug company influence on research, treatment and guidelines; Holism VS reductionism; Care instead of cure; Common approach to disease and pain; Taboo of death; Assistance; Health organization

3) Model of psychological discomfort in this society

4) Environmental distress as cause of disease

Proponent(s) Jean-Louis Aillon, Movimento per la decrescita felice, Andrea Gardini, Slow medicine (Italy)

Proposed outcome We propose to organise an online publication of the workshop proceedings with a summary of the discussions and a video, for more details.

31. Degrowth and vulnerable people: socio-political commitment in favour of transition

Keywords Fragility, Transition, Social transformation

Description The idea for this workshop stems from an assignment in Brussels, where social work students were invited to develop their projects of professional practice in the direction of degrowth and transition. These projects are in the field of social intervention which means working with people in difficulty; youth in risk, people with disabilities, adults with psychological- or social problems, drug addicts, homeless, elderly people etc. Enabling the most vulnerable people of our societies to find, in frugality and rediscovered conviviality, the power to overcome their marginalised situation is the main stream of thought running through these projects. Being able to choose to consume less and learn the art of living better with less can help to meet social needs for all citizens as well as the vulnerable. One of the projects is the creation of a communal vegetable garden. It was decided that this shared space should be located in the heart of Brussels, and therefore made easily accessible. In time, those who participated in the garden gained a deeper knowledge and understanding of the seasonal cycles and the rhythms of agriculture and harvest. We hope to gain a better understanding of these types of project, which focus on participation and sharing responsibility, and how they can have a positive effect on marginalised groups. Building on this example the workshop aims to explore its replicability and the theoretical and practical implications of similar projects.

Proponent(s) François Gillet, Haute Ecole de Bruxelles (Belgium)

TERRITORY, POPULATION AND MIGRATIONS

32. Bioregion: a model for socio-economic and environmental self-sustainability

Keywords Bioregion, self-sustainability, food sovereignty

Description Bioregionalism has its roots in the early '70s (Berg, 1978). The 'bioregion' has been designed by Berg with an ecological sense, as a particular set of environmental features that are located in an area. The theme of the bioregion has been subsequently investigated by several scholars such as Sale (1985), who founds the concept of bioregion on four pillars: scale, economy, politics and society. "...the optimal scale is the bioregional scale, that is neither so small as to be helpless and miserable, nor so large as to be heavy and uncontrollable, a dimension in which human potential can deal with the ecological reality". Many interesting contributions came from different disciplines such as planning, in particular with studies that raise the question of the identification of local systems through a recognition of identity and diversity of places and the "regeneration of relations between town and country" (Magnaghi). Other contributions to the definition of the bioregion came from economic disciplines, particularly with Bioeconomics (Latouche, Bonaiuti). The interest in the theme of the bioregion derives from the need to coordinate the different "visions" of the bioregion and to investigate aspects related to the "transition" to a self-sustainable economic and social model, and declined at the local level by establishing sustainable ways to meet basic human needs like food, water, energy, housing and materials.

Main topics for discussions:

- presentation of local experience conducted within a perspective of bioregion;
- the transition towards a bioregion: the key elements to manage the transition of scale and the change of economic system;
- bioregion and the crisis of capitalism;
- stock and flow models;
- the role of agriculture in the transition.

Proponent(s) Lucia Piani, Alberto Rover, Università di Udine (Italy)

33. Degrowth and Population

Keywords Reproduction, women, childfree

Description In this workshop we want to analyse critically the obligation to become a mother in the imaginary, in order to free new spaces for the choice of being childfree, with the enhancement of sexual expressions different from heterosexual intercourse. The underlying reason is that the proposal of degrowth must comprise the impact of procreation on our "finite world". While there have been campaigns, sometimes violent, to reduce birth rates in the Third World/Global South and among minorities, but nowadays in the West maternity (part of women's not recognized work) is still socially considered the female destiny. In fact, women have progressively freed themselves from this fate, by reducing the number of children that they want to have. This historical trend must be seen as positive, rather than bemoaning the fall in the birth rate, that can be seen in essence as a racist fear for the "decline of race". In the capitalist mode of production, social obligation to maternity is wedded to the growth imperative. A way to expand the system and guarantee profits has historically been to boost the population to dispose of cheap workforce and new consumers. From the degrowth point of view we must instead give value in our imaginary to the choice of not reproducing oneself. We welcome paper proposals that can be historical (e. g. the "womb strike" proposed by Nelly in 1920) or contemporary; from the global quantitative point of view (the question of a stable or diminishing population) or from the individual point of view about the choice of non maternity; empowering voluntary non-maternity or denouncing its violent enforcement.

Proponent(s) Daniela Danna e Ornella Guzzetti, Associazione XXD (Italy)

Proposed outcome On line publication on the site www.xxdonne.net (copyleft!), proposal to publishing companies, if the papers have a good scientific and political value

TECHNIQUE, TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT

34. Degrowth in Architecture

Keywords Architecture, needs, sobriety

Description What does Degrowth mean? In nature everything grows, then pauses, declines and dies. Architecture is a mirror of society, of life. If we want Degrowth in architecture, we must first want it for us. The way of doing it is being. Hence the manifesto of Degrowth in architecture should, in fact, be the manifesto of Degrowth related to our needs. Passing through the critical filter of Degrowth the needs will sediment and be resized. With such a sedimentation, you lose some things, but some others come to the surface and are purified, distilled. New spiritual spaces may be opened. In this way architecture, which is our dress, should be resized by our needs, which are downsized. You can not restrict a dress before the body has been reduced. Otherwise, the dress would become a shell that oppresses. Of course it is wrong (and impossible) to think of an "architecture" of Degrowth. We know that our style is "not to be styled", but in doing architecture connected to the territory, and therefore to the landscape we keep our ethical convictions (hence to Degrowth).

Proponent(s) Associazione eco-filosofica (Italy)

35. The role of technology in a degrowth society

Keywords Technology, Production, Role & account & visions of technology

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| Description | Work, economy and growth nowadays are fundamentally linked to technology, technological progress and the handling of our world by and through technology. If we are talking about degrowth as a passage of civilization we have to keep in mind that our (Western) civilisations are technological ones: At present, we all are living in a world which is strongly formed and deeply touched by technology. Technology nowadays can be seen as an expression par excellence, of a “logic of quantitative multiplication” and a main key to the “yoke of labor”. So talking about Work and Degrowth we have to deal with technology, and, moreover a shift to degrowth implies a fundamental shift in dealing, handling and developing technology. In this workshop we want to ask what are the ideas and visions of technology for a degrowth society. Which role will/should technology play, which functions perform? Which account will we give to technology? Is technology still seen as a basis of our economic life and as the prevailing form of our dealing with the world surrounding us? In debates about degrowth, the dimension of technology has not been discussed very broadly and deeply so far. Visions often are drawn in a black or white manner. Positions and values of technophiles and technophobes (proponents and opponents of technology) collide suddenly. Where will the degrowth-transition lead to: a world with less or no technology, to other technologies, to the same or similar technologies like today but with other significance and importance in our (everyday) live? How will the ways of production beyond Post-Fordism look like: A return of handicraft with a new spiritual awareness or a cultivated and restrained high-tech-production by machines satisfying our basic needs? How does technology fit in the ideas of “mutual, creative and loving partnership” in division of labour and the aim of improving the “conditions of life on this planet”? We want to discuss such visions and questions with philosophers, researchers, visionaries and practitioners already living a (non) technological answer to these questions. |
| Proponent(s) | Olivier Parodi, KIT-Research-Focus “Humans and Technology”; Linda Nierling, Institute for Technology Assessment and Systems Analysis (Germany) |
| Proposed outcome | Outcome of these visionary, critical (scientific based) workshop might be a paper, mapping positions and points of views related to the role of technology in a degrowth society, to give a strong input for further debates of degrowth and link it to the discussions about sustainable development and future technologies. |

36. Slow Management

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| Keywords | Slow Management (SM), Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), Bioeconomics |
| Description | <p>Slow Management is a transversal concept applying to any organisation. It concerns Slow Food, Slow Money, Slow Production, Slow Life etc. ... Its philosophy is to privilege the means to the purpose. The end cannot justify the way to achieve it, and this philosophy breaks with Utilitarianism. Ethics and equity are the most important means of achievement in any activity, because human values are put at the core of a reflexive as much as positive view. Human activity is embedded in a social, environmental system and there is permanent interaction between these components of our living world. SM is the culmination of a variety of approaches in economics, management, sociology, history. It is a practical transposition of CSR, with respect to social and environmental implications. But it differs from classic CSR in that its economic part is not the mainstream economics, but ecological economics or “bioeconomics”. In this perspective, economics is a subdiscipline of ecology. Bioeconomics is meant to preserve, manage and equitably distribute natural resources between the populations, respectful of all forms of life, of intra and inter-generational distribution. Its end is the “enjoyment of life”. SM encourages strong links between the actors and thus the re-localisation of activities in order to reconnect the actions with their direct and indirect consequences (positive and negative externalities). Key issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What legislation is required to the spreading of the SM? ▪ What are the successful models of SM that could be “exported”? Ex. community supported agriculture (CSA) which integrates commons, work and democracy. ▪ What are the limits of SM |
| Proponent(s) | Roxana Bobulescu, Claudio Vitari, Grenoble Ecole de Management, Grenoble (France), Marjolijn Bloemmen, Waag Society (Nederlands) |
| Proposed outcome | On-line publication, campaign |

37. Zero waste design

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| Keywords | Design, waste prevention, innovation |
| Description | The workshop aims to investigate the issue of the management of the end of life of products and packaging and, in particular, aspects related to the relationship between design and garbage and waste minimisation. The Directive 2008/98/EC (transposed in Italy with Legislative Decree 205 of 31 December 2010) has again provided a hierarchy of priority actions to place prevention at first and then reuse, recycling, recovery (such as energy) and finally disposal, the ultimate solution to be considered if all other are not feasible. Looking at this list of priorities it emerges with some evidence that the preferred options are also those where action is needed prior to production and, therefore, in an area that is exactly in the realm of the design of the commons. Design, with its ability to "look ahead", offers great scope for improvement, but needs to be guided along the way. The ideation of innovative solutions to garbage and waste prevention, requires a prioritisation of objectives, a range of structured and shared environmental criteria, the collaboration of all stakeholders involved directly or indirectly to the chain, and the production of clear systems to monitor the results. The workshop will discuss these issues and present some cases of practical experiences that have already produced qualitatively and quantitatively verifiable results. |
| Proponent(s) | Laura Badalucco, Medardo Chiapponi, Università Iuav di Venezia (Italy) |
| Proposed outcome | - on-line publication of the report, documents, presentations, photos, etc. in the website www.newdesignvision.com - preparing a paper for possible publication |

AGRICULTURE, POVERTY AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY

38. Thought of degrowth and agricultural models: what connections are needed for a social and cultural transition?

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| Keywords | Farmers, Autonomy, Co-producers |
| Description | <p>The number of hungry people worldwide has grown to almost 1 billion. Most of these are made up of the rural poor. According to Olivier De Schutter, UN Special Reporter on the right to food, we must work on "the strengthening of the agricultural sector, especially the small-scale farmers." Furthermore, almost 1 billion people are at risk of obesity. The (physical and mental) distance between consumers and producers is increasing and food is perceived as a commodity and not as a product of the farmers' work. This data is consistent with the imagery of unlimited growth that characterises our current thinking and the current system. Introducing the concept of degrowth and connecting it to the agricultural models means to focus on the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Change from industrialised farming to family farming agriculture. Social recognition of the farmers work and role.▪ Recognition of positive externalities in the work produced in the community by a quality farming, starting from the labor inclusion of disadvantaged people.▪ Transition from a state of dependence on agro-business multinational to courses of autonomous plant reproduction, protection and use of seeds and mapping of the species present in the different territories.▪ Change from chemical agriculture to natural methods and production time.▪ Transition from a model with a strong concentration of land in the hands of the few to practices that ensure access to land by those who live it and work it (farmers, cooperatives and associative networks of farmers).▪ Transition from a model that sees producers and consumers as counterparties to a model in which they are configured as co-responsible in the production model. <p>A special focus on social farming will also be proposed; a system that manages a network of different actors of a territory, contributing to building a sustainable and inclusive model, supportive and respectful of the environment.</p> |
| Proponent(s) | EQuiStiamo (VI); Rete Cibopertutti, Comitato Italiano Sovranità Alimentare, Terre di mezzo (promoters of KUMINDA) (Italy) |

Proposed outcome A video will be created by Equistiamo and the results of the workshop will be disseminated in the festival Kuminda, which will take place in October 2012 in Parma (Italy).

39. The idea of sobriety and economic self-sufficiency from the monastic civilization to new monasteries and eco-villages

Keywords Monasteries, eco-villages, sustainable communities

Description The idea of building self-sufficient and self-regulated small communities, leading a sober and sustainable life in line with some fundamental ethical and spiritual values, originates in antiquity, and returns in different historical, geographical, cultural and religious contexts. In the West, probably the most significant influence came from the experience of Monasticism, which has been - since late antique until the early Middle Ages - a laboratory of choices with regard to economic production, which might have been different but however based on self-sufficiency. Alongside the religious strand that continues in today's Convents, we have the development of contemporary forms of different communities - villages, small towns - inspired by a sense of ecological awareness and environmental and social sustainability. The modern community experiences that develop particularly after the 60's found their characterisation particularly in the form of eco-villages. In their diversity, these experiences have in common the attempt to put into practice - in a spirit of sharing and solidarity - a form of sustainable living in ecological, spiritual, socio-cultural and economic terms. This workshop aims to discuss all those forms of communities that are predominantly or totally self-sufficient and self-regulated, in different historical, geographical, socio-political environments. In particular it is intended to highlight the different visions and the underlying values that inform these experiences, the process of building its own identity, the origins and evolutionary pathways, and to highlight the organisational forms and regulatory systems of production and distribution, the relationships with the natural environment and other social realities, and the management of internal dynamics.

Proponent(s) Vincenzo Marigliano, Massimo Candela, Rete degli eco villaggi (Italy)

ECOLOGICAL MACROECONOMICS AND TRANSITION

40. Macroeconomics of Sustainability

Keywords Macroeconomic Dynamics, Wellbeing, Structural Change

Description This workshop aims to answer to two different questions:
i) Which policies can be currently applied to our economies to make the big transition socially sustainable?
The starting point of this workshop is that economic growth is not the panacea for our socio-economic systems, and that is not the solution to the current crisis, despite the fact that most policy makers and many economists still believe in that paradigm. However, the degrowth proposal must deal with the dynamics of macroeconomic variables and other performance indexes such as employment, particularly during the transition. Indeed it is crucial to evaluate the practicability of socially sustainable implementation a downscaling of production and reduction of consumption. It is not only a problem of stability of the economy (see Jackson, 2009); the issue is to scrutinize and explain the capacity of our proposal to be welfare improving. In other words, we must identify the policies which are able to start the transition to a socio-economic system that does not rely on economic growth. After the Peter Victor's (2008) contribution, many research groups have studied similar macroeconomic structural models using system dynamics. In Austria, Italy and the UK, scholars find it possible to improve macroeconomic performance indexes without relying on economic growth. The workshop aims to compare the different models and the different (provisional) results. The focus will be on:

- employment and working time;
- public debt and credit;
- ecological sustainability.

ii) It is possible to maintain and improve the high level of the provision of services and public goods of our society making a big structural change towards a new sector, which we may call the “commons”?

The current economic, social and ecological crisis discloses the inadequacy of our world views, institutions, and technologies (WIT) to guarantee, and to sustain high levels of well-being for the future (Beddoe et al., 2009). Changes in WITs can have traumatic effects, but may help avoid a collapse of the system. A crucial feature of our WIT is the trust that markets and states can tackle and solve any social problem. A large body of literature challenges this view by showing empiric examples where private and government interventions prove to be both ineffective and inefficient in regulating economic and social systems (see, for instance, Ostrom, 2010). Particularly critical seems to be the managing of the commons, including common-pool natural resources but also community- and cultural-resources, which in the last decades have been privatised to guarantee high levels of profit to corporations, in the hope of fostering innovation and growth at the same time. This process is a key cause of an increased vulnerability of a significant portion of the human population to economic and environmental shocks. Barnes (2006) proposes to devolve power to collective institutions who manage commons, in order to stop deprivations. The emergence and the development of the commons sector, managed through polycentric governance rules, may generate two positive effects: on one hand it reduces possible negative effects caused by changes in WITs, through the provision of community services and mechanisms of mutual help; on the other hand, it contributes to the generation of new WITs. In this workshop we discuss the possibility of such structural change, by investigating the transition to an economy where the commons’ sector has widened significantly. The emergence of such a sector can induce a downscale in production, a reduction in consumption and labor supply, but an increase in relational goods and social networks that provide substitutes to market-goods and services (see also Bilancini and D’Alessandro, 2011).

Proponent(s) Emanuele Campiglio, NEF, New Economic Foundation, London (UK), Simone D’Alessandro, Dipartimento di Scienze Economiche, Università di Pisa (Italy)

Proposed outcome Papers may end up in a special issue of a scientific journal or on a book.

41. Energy Transition and Degrowth Paradigm

Keywords Energy transition, societal transition, degrowth paradigm

Description Economic degrowth has been identified in developed countries as a transition path toward ecological sustainability and social equity which includes an energy transition. We seek research contributions exploring the mechanisms and implications of such an energy transition within a context of economic degrowth. In particular, we would welcome contributions explicitly discussing the following – but not limited to – open research questions: (1) Which alternative resource management schemes should be considered in order to better serve the needs of a degrowth society, especially with regards to fossil fuels?; (2) What are the trade-offs and complementary points of locally vs. centrally derived energy systems?; (3) What are the spaces and transition strategies for low-tech renewable solutions that are compatible with the degrowth paradigm? We also encourage the authors to get familiar with the latest research advances in the field of energy and degrowth so as to ensure high-quality contributions. For instance, we would particularly welcome contributions helping responding to some points of disagreement from the last conference and inconsistencies recently found in relation to the degrowth paradigm: (4) What sectors of society should reduce their energy consumption in priority, with which implications?; (5) Is a cap on the energy demand (and resources output) a desirable proposal given its unpopularity and the possible need for rationed resources to solve societal problems (Tainter, *Environ. Innovation. & Soc. Transit.* 1:89–95)? If so, what would be the functioning rules of such a mechanism?; and (6) How tshould we address the apparent inconsistency between the working-less proposal and the anticipated decline of labor productivity due to lower energy quality (Sorman and Giampietro, *J. Cleaner Prod.*, in press)?

Proponent(s) Christian Kerschner, François Diaz Maurin, ICTA-UAB / R&D (Spain)

POWER AND DEMOCRACY

42. Degrowth and power

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| Keywords | Power, means, movements |
| Description | The degrowth movement is at the vanguard in its dealing with the “external borders” of the human species: that is, it challenges not just relations within society, but – what is unprecedented in the history of political and social movements - even society's very limits and ends. It is also relatively aware of the social dimension of its environmentalist proposal, drawing from the tradition of left some of the qualifications of its idea of a “fair, sustainable and participatory degrowth”. As far as the political instruments of its proposal of a radical ecological change are concerned, though, the degrowth movement shows a much less critical and creative approach. The traditional political instruments of the nation-state and of political professionalism are often acritically assumed as degrowth's own instruments, even as this same political model has lost consensus and actual power in today's world. Are there alternatives to this “lazy” or “naive” approach to means, methods and subjects of change by the degrowth movement, and which could these be? Could popular struggles such as that in Valsusa against the TAV, or global forms of direct action and self-management as Critical Mass's urban cyclism, be examples for a degrowth movement that not confined to townhall offices or university faculties, but growing into a popular movement, fully developing its revolutionary potential? |
| Proponent(s) | Marco De Bernardo, LAD, CUSA (Italy) |
| Proposed outcome | Paper and on line publication; activation of an exchanging and working network. |

43. A place for everything and everything in its place: scales of power and appropriate size of political communities

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| Keywords | Space, scale, power |
| Description | “What happens when policy is everywhere?” asked Pierre Clastres in <i>Society against the State</i> . “Then, it's nowhere.” Find a place for political power and understand how to organise society. Depending on who holds power and the way he uses it, society is different. Pierre Clastres affirms that explaining political power is the same thing as explaining society and history. Understanding how power is distributed and used in our societies, and finding a better way to share it (but also grant it as its just place and value), permits us to think of alternative ways to change the world. To think about power, the notion of scale is useful. This concept (often used in justice theories) allows us to look at the area a population is living in, and to question the appropriate size of political communities and therefore the organization of society. Which scale is appropriate for ecological efficiency and fair communities? That is the question I want to discuss, considering theoretical legacies of the conception of scales – and place – of power, from the geographer Elisée Reclus to the ethnologist Pierre Clastres. |
| Proponent(s) | Anne-Laure Pailloux, Lab'Urba - University of Paris-Est Marne-la-Vallée (France) |

44. Degrowth and Migrations

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| Keywords | Migration, rights, environmental refugees |
| Description | The era we are living through manifests a fundamental contradiction. On the one hand, the governments of the global North (and other actors) tend to promote policies of control and an active fight against immigration, making it more and more difficult for third-country nationals (above all those from poor, war-stricken areas or countries exposed to calamities and disasters) to enter and legally remain in the richest, most industrialized countries, while simultaneously making the stays of those who have already arrived precarious and “insecure”. This trend is becoming even more evident in times of economic and financial crisis, when it is precisely the most vulnerable (and among these many long-term migrants) that pay the highest price not only in terms of working, housing and socio-economic difficulties, but also in terms of losing those rights connected to the |

legality of their stay (in a vicious circle linking the issue and renewal of permits to those in possession of work contract). On the other hand, the same policies of unsustainable growth, plundering resources and impoverishment – both from an economic and a material and ecological point of view – pursued in entire regions of the world and which led to the world crisis in the first place, have provoked an increase in the global number of migrants. It is in this context that the phenomenon of so-called “environmental refugees” and “development-induced displacement” emerges.

This workshop aims to reflect on how degrowth could contrast the increasing destruction of social and environmental systems and the precariousness of living conditions; at the same time, in this period of transition and mass-displacement, it aims to reflect on how it is necessary to struggle for the defense and promotion of the increasingly precarious rights of those who are forced to leave their countries.

Proponent(s) Chiara Marchetti, Università di Milano, Associazione Italiana per la Decrescita (Italy)

INSTITUTIONS, PUBLIC SPACE AND PARTICIPATION

45. Hold the Line. The emerging forms of democratic expression

Keywords Public space, transition and transformation, identity and environment

Description “We are waking up from a dream [...]” said Slavoj Žižek during the event “Occupy Wall Street” in New York on 17th september. Our workshop proposal is intended to deal with the emerging forms of democratic expression in western countries, through a cultural perspective. Relevant attention is given to the concept of space. Starting from re-appropriation of public space as mean of meeting and protest, presenting as an example “Occupennial” and “People’s Mic”, we are going to develop an analysis on the devitalization of space through different mechanisms: from the original concept of “agorà” to the contemporary post-fordist status, to the necessity to design a space in landscape connected with bio-capitalism. The spread of semi-public spaces which are commercial centers in which the concept of public space is connected to consumerism (Augè). Space becomes a place of transition and transformation: it is liquid and the individual has no fixed place, creating dynamics of solitude and separation (this is the thesis of Zygmunt Bauman and Paul Virilio, when he talks about space crossing). The concept of democracy is structured on the analysis of the activity of different contemporary collectives and artists, aiming to attract the attention of people and make them sensitive to questions of politics and ethic. Stiegler talks of “catastrophy of expression” in relation to weakness of subject, a theory connected to the artistic practice of DV8 Physical Theatre collective, who use the body as vehicle of communication as well as to the work of Torolab, Santiago Serra, Casare Pietrousti and Francesco Jodice. A particular focus is on collective expositions as “declining democracy” and “projecto Juarez” to build a collective vision on the activity of common practices, even if belonging to different realities.

Proponent(s) Simone Santilli, Francesca Crudo, Associazione culturale ETICA-mente (Italy)

Proposed outcome After the discussions held on in the days of workshop, our proposal will be to conceive a new (conceptual) form of public space in order to create an efficient platform, acting as place of meeting, discussion, cultural exchange, picking out, according to everyone’s demand, the best means to carry it out. We will define the areas of specific interest in order to foster the collectivity in a concrete exchange of ideas. The final work will consist in the production of a paper reporting the results of our research.

46. Towards a society of the commons: from the democracy of the earth to new institutionalities

Keywords Energy, decentralisation, participation

Description In June 2011, Italian citizens voted through referendum against nuclear power, for a reform of the national energetic model which recognises energy as a common good that should be democratically administrated. Not only energy is central in the industrial sector, it is essential for every human being life. In a context of multi crises (economical, financial, climatic, environmental, migratory, food) that stress every day more the need for reversing the dominant development model, it is fundamental to completely rethink the energy system. There is a urgent need for the development of local energy plans (EU’s Covenant of Mayors and SEAPs) based on citizenship

and social sectors participation and on distributing renewable energy and on energy efficiency. This implies a global change and reinvention of the productive model that is translated into the energy system, passing from a hierarchical system of generation and distribution to a decentralised system based on intelligent networks. Changing this model also implies the experimentation of new local and democratic decision making processes, aiming at the creation of new participative institutions starting from the local level for the development of alternatives measures and practices. Such processes represent a field of action to be explored and implemented through new spaces of dialogue and participative decision making involving both local government and social stakeholders.

Proponent(s) Giuseppe De Marzo, Lucie Greyl, Associazione A Sud (Italy)
 Proposed outcome Written report to be published online; video of workshop (to be confirmed).

47. Environmental Justice and local communities

Keywords Communities, natural resources, participation
 Description The current lifestyles adopted by the global North are characterized by a high level of consumption of natural resources which has a great impact: from the oil extraction in the Niger Delta to the coal mines in Poland, from the construction of a road through a natural park in Bolivia, to the realization of a high speed train railway in the Susa Valley (IT). The process of management and exploitation of resources is mainly exercised by private economic actors, which do not include the communities that live in the places where these resources are in the decision making process, on the contrary they leave them open to the problems that arise from exploitation. How does the degrowth perspective help to break this mechanism of environmental and social injustice? How can we support these local communities so that they can exercise sovereignty over natural resources of their territory? Local communities can also be seen as the key to facilitate the transition from a paradigm of exploitation (nature as an economic object) to the cure, which consider humankind just as part of the nature. Can a lifestyle change in the global North help the implementation of governance models of democratic, participatory and sustainable use of natural resources in the global South? How can we engage the private sector in a system of governance involving the sovereignty of local communities on natural resources? These questions will form the basis of the workshop which will explore the link between degrowth models and environmental justice in terms of democratic participation of local communities in decision-making processes surrounding access, control and management of natural resources.

Proponent(s) Mani Tese/Giosuè De Salvo (Italy)
 Proposed outcome Activation of exchanging or working networks / campaigning.

48. Degrowing politics: a new model for government and participation

Keywords Politics, quality of life, participation
 Description Degrowth is a global framework which is suitable for remodeling well-established values and providing the opportunity to develop genuinely new perspectives. From a political perspective such change has deep implications for the role of political actors, for the content of the public debate among them and other social actors (first of all information and civil society) and for the ways this debate takes places. The cultural shift from citizens as votes to gain, towards citizens as people to involve and who can participate reveals itself as the key for *degrowing* politics. The present workshop aims to develop this view combining in a multidisciplinary perspective to look at studies on quality of life and well-being. It will focus on:

- What mission should politics have in our society to encourage a path to degrowth? How does current political imagery need to reshape itself to face this challenge?
- What are the implications of this change of perspective for present political actors? Can we imagine new political subjects in addition to those already existing (parties, movements, associations)?
- How can we improve the quality of participation, developing individual and collective well-being? Do degrowth experiences conjugate these dimensions?

- What concrete political actions are coherent with these principles? What case studies represent positive examples (political campaigns, participative projects, communication strategies, new technologies, political devolution)?

Proponent(s) Marco Boffi, Università degli Studi di Milano (Italy)

49. 'Real' Democracy? Perspectives and chances for democratic practice in a post-growth/de-growth society

Keywords Concepts of democracy; typologies of democracy (deliberative; deep; direct; radical); prospects for democratic practice.

Description As a matter of fact, political decision making is organized in a multi-layered way, ranging from international regimes to local authorities. Normatively, the idea of democracy has been globally accepted as basic mode of input-legitimacy. In political reality, there are variants of democratic and pseudo-democratic regimes, ranging from electorate presidential democracies, representative democracies to modes of local and direct democracy. In a post/de-growth perspective, different proposals have been made of how to reconcile the very idea of democracy with societal objectives and ideals which are enshrined in a degrowth-trajectory. Quite often, one finds qualifiers as "deliberative", "real", "substantial", "deep", "true", "inclusive" or "radical" which are used in order to point at the difference between such reconciliation and the existing modes of Western representative democracies. The panel wishes to take a deeper look into the heterogeneous concepts and proposals that are at the heart of such qualifiers. In order to do so, three approaches will be outlined and critically commented: deliberative, real and radical democracy. It shall be explored which concepts are promising for further democratization and for viable grounds for democratic life beyond economic growth. Papers concerning a) deliberative democracy, b) real democracy, c) radical democracy, are welcomed.

Proponent(s) Konrad Ott, Barbara Muraca (Germany)

Proposed outcome Contribution to the overall conference declaration; reflection on the complexity of different approaches to democracy & degrowth – possible creation of transnational discussion forums after the conference. Envisioned: Special issue on degrowth and democracy in scientific journal

SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND POLITICAL STRATEGIES

50. Left, Right, Postpolitical? Unmasking Conservative Degrowth Strategy

Keywords Right-wing rhetoric; postpolitical degrowth visions; networking

Description More and more scholars and activists from a conservative, neoliberal or a right-wing-background have come to instrumentalize the degrowth debate in their terms (see for example De Benoist in France and Miegel in Germany). Parts of the degrowth movement uncritically engage with these actors, thus blurring the debates. At the same time, parts of the green and degrowth movements work with a "postpolitical" approach to politics, neglecting social questions and questions of power. Since we are concerned about these developments, with this workshop we want to launch a collective discussion bringing together the experiences from different countries regarding arguments, rhetorical strategies, and hidden premises of conservative degrowth activists and thinkers. The aim of the workshop is an active exchange among participants from different countries, a critical scrutiny of the imaginary that supports right-wing and conservative degrowth visions and an analysis of their networks and strategies. The workshop should therefore be highly interactive and participatory.

Proponent(s) Andrea Vetter, Matthias Schmelzer, Barbara Muraca, ATTAC (Germany)

Proposed outcome Activation and exchange of transnational networks to raise consciousness and enhance critical thinking; on-going exchange after the conference; work on a general consensus within the degrowth movement against conservative & right-wing-approaches

51. Political strategies: how to make a democratic and peaceful transition to sustainable and desirable societies based on Degrowth

Keywords Political strategy, participatory democracy, transition

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| Description | <p>In the last 10 years, several movements around Degrowth were developed, in particular in France, in Spain, in Italy, Switzerland and Belgium. In France, in the last four years we have had discussions and debates about political strategies for Degrowth. In particular we developed the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In and out of the system: The Four political levels of Degrowth and how to make them work together: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The individual level: 'voluntary simplicity' or 'frugality' and the 'decolonisation of our imagination'; that is, thinking outside existing paradigms - The collective level: local and concrete alternative experiences outside the capitalist paradigm: individualism and productivism. - Exposure/visibility: participation in electoral campaigns, media appearances, and staging of public meetings and debates. - The project itself: a project for the transition together with the conceptualisation / projection / imagining / dreaming of Degrowth societies. ▪ A critical mass strategy and convergences with other movements. ▪ Degrowth and power: why is taking power not a prerequisite to any change. Transition, reduction of powers and not revolution. ▪ How to re-politicise society and socialise politics for a more direct democracy and a higher level of participation. <p>Other strategies have been developed, theorized and experienced in other countries. The main objectives of this workshop is to present and debate on these theories and ask: how to we make a democratic and peaceful transition to sustainable and desirable societies based on Degrowth?</p> |
| Proponent(s) | French Degrowth Movement (France) |
| Proposed outcome | 1) To propose a text summarizing all this experiences and theories in a critical way. 2) To create a participatory and open working group dealing with political strategies for Degrowth. |

52. Designing Real Utopias? Political consumerism and Sustainable Community Movements between dreams and practice

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| Keywords | Consumption, grassroots movements, political engagement |
| Description | <p>In numerous democratic political regimes, new forms of social movements connected to the individual and collective political use of consumption have emerged and consolidated, organizing forms of collective trade and 'alternative' consumption. Some examples are Transition Towns, the Italian Networks and Districts of Solidarity Economy based on groups of solidarity purchasing, or cooperative forms of producers/consumers associations such as the French AMAP (Associations pour le Maintien d'une Agriculture Paysanne). Some have even called this process a "sustainable community movement". Despite the rapid rise of these experiences, empirically the role of grassroots movements which promote changes in individual behaviour as a collective action has been overlooked – especially in a comparative perspective. Currently, there is limited information available on one hand regarding the diffusion of organised forms of political consumerism in Europe which go beyond mere boycott activities, and on the other hand regarding the influence of such forms of political engagement in contemporary democracies. The aim of this panel is to collect papers which investigate: the emergence of new grassroots movements based on innovative consumer behaviour; the political and organizational resources used by civic groups that promote the coordination of individual actions and behaviour in order to solve large problems, such as a new organization of the economy based on environmental sustainability; the effectiveness of such organizations in local, national and international political contexts; the relationships between political consumerism and social movements, interest groups and political parties; the repertoire of actions adopted by grassroots transition groups. A comparative perspective will be particularly appreciated.</p> |
| Proponent(s) | Francesca Forno, Bergamo University; Paolo R. Graziano, Bocconi University (Italy) |

53. Wars are fossils. How to prevent them? Can we stop them? Why the "Movement" is silent?

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| Keywords | Western Wars, Movement |
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| Description | Wars, and even more the Western wars to control resources and to maintain the privileges of western peoples are the opposite to the degrowth theory and to the "new world" of empathy, equality, ecology and fantasy which we say we want to build. Then why, in spite of the growth of this "movement for a new world", has almost nobody acted against the Western war on Libya? Why was the movement silent in spite of some attempts to move it? Preventing wars and stopping them should be a common denominator, a very strong one, to all commitments. The "movements for a new world" are thinking that preventing wars can be done only in the long term, when the world will be out of fossils economy? Are we resigned to watch helpless the today's wars murdering people, nature, living beings? And helping to consolidate the old world and its privileges? See also the project: http://www.produzionidalbasso.com |
| Proponent(s) | Marinella Correggia (Italy) |

BUEN VIVIR, WELLBEING AND SUSTAINABILITY

54. Living well together. Democracy and human wellbeing

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| Keywords | Democracy, well-being, human development |
| Description | The real challenge of our time is achieving human wellbeing for all and living well together in a system in which we experience scarcity, complex risks and great inequalities. Development agencies have been focusing on monetary poverty reduction based on the orthodox economic growth model rather than fundamentally confronting the origins of the unequal distribution of human wellbeing that currently exists in world. According to the Degrowth perspective we should change the common paradigm and discover new way for a better action. A large participatory involvement would bring us in a more democratic future where what matters to peoples in their everyday life will fit in the political agenda and people will be more engaged in civil actions. If we adopt this perspective how does it impact the way we look towards the future? In which ways can Degrowth support human well-being and a democratic future? Global and local contributions to possible directions will be welcome from politicians, academics, planners and members civil society. Do local authorities allow citizens perspective on human wellbeing? Are there appropriate tools to consult people to make an efficient use of the governability to act in response to the community's wellbeing? How are human wellbeing and people's participation considered in urban planning? Are the societies aware of their responsibility and their own role? |
| Proponent(s) | Abdel Martinez Castro (Cuba), Ricardo Vázquez Díaz (Cuba), Michela Guerini (Italy) |
| Proposed outcome | In addition to the individual papers, the discussion will be summarized and published online. |

55. Real utopias: from Solidarity Economy to the "buen vivir"

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| Keywords | Solidarity economy, buen vivir, participatory democracy |
| Description | <p>The Solidarity Economy Network started in Italy 10 years ago, and now we have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A large number of 'theoretical' contributions on <i>the Solidarity Economy</i> from several countries; these contributions have put into question the 'theories' of classic economics, and the traditional dichotomy between two possible social systems, Capitalist and Socialist. This discussion is based on the specific practices of the movements with reference to the cultures and identities of South America and on the nineteenth century critical thought of western authors like Polanyi, Illich, Bateson, Mauss, Georgescu; 2. The exchanges underway between exponents of degrowth and some of the 'observatories' on the experiences of the 'ecosol movement' in the single countries. <p>We propose in the workshop to look at the following issues:</p> <p>Is it possible that the "economic and social system oriented to the commons, alternative to the neo-liberal system" recalled in the constitutive documents of Italian RES can now refer to a 'third way' regarding to the Capitalism and Socialism, that is to the model based on "Buen Vivir", already proposed in some South American constitutions?</p> <p>Or what can create the 'participatory' and the transition process to the 'third way', integrating practices of the various existing social movements (from 'the relations economy' to the 'indignados') and the various western theories ("ecological conversion", "convivial degrowth", etc.),</p> |

that try to draw an other possible world based on the 'reciprocity', on the ability "to reincorporate the economic in the social one" and "to reorganize the role of the market and the monetary exchanges", and create alternatives to the civilization crisis that we are living?

Proponent(s) Davide Biolghini, Tavolo RES (Italy)

56. Urban transition - towards sustainable futures of cities

Keywords Sustainability, transition, city, districts

Description Great interest exists in cities, communes and megacities as important actors and areas to be addressed on the path to a more sustainable society. We suggest taking a closer look at urban movements and approaches that are dealing with or contribute to degrowth. At the level of cities and districts, the potential and willingness to become active and be engaged in volunteer work is visible and expressed in countless associations, projects, initiatives and clubs. In our workshop we want to exchange ideas about research and practical activities which address the topic of a transition to more sustainable cities and urban districts. That would include different levels of discussion. The workshop will be dedicated to discussing the question of how much responsibility and action should be focused on the different levels of cities, districts and neighborhoods, and what duties and responsibilities are seen on other levels (e.g. national or private). How can work, production and life be located and organised in the density of cities in a good and worthwhile way? The transition to degrowth is essentially linked to adequate forms of governance giving room for change. How is democracy and participation in cities and urban districts realised today? Are these forms adequate? What are best practice examples? Beside a theoretical discussion and reflection, strategies are identified and transferred to ongoing projects, e.g. the transition to a sustainable urban district in a city in Southwest Germany by a close cooperation of municipality, science (the local university), civil society and economy.

Proponent(s) Sarah Meyer, Institute for Technology Assessment and Systems Analysis (Germany)

Proposed outcome Outcome of this workshop might be a vision, mission statement, agenda or guidelines for cities to manage the transition to degrowth along the three core themes.

LAND, FOOD SOVEREIGNTY AND DEMOCRACY

57. Democratic Processes and Access to Land and Natural Resources

Keywords Natural resources, land use, spatial dimension

Description The use of natural resources is not only restricted by its availability but also by its possibilities accessibility. The right of property is one of the best protected worldwide and a fundamental concept on which the capitalist system is built on. With the acquisition of land and its resources land is converted into a private good which implies that the owner can exclude others from its use. Therefore, ownership of (arable) land plays a crucial role to basic needs of human life as land is needed for food and energy production. People in non-industrialized countries are more affected by the ownership paradigm as they are dependent on the direct use of natural resources. A democratic decision-making process guided by collective action has shown to lead to a more sustainable stewardship of natural resources than private ownership and governmental control. Less demand for natural resources, for example by decreasing energy consumption, lowers profit possibilities and makes land less attractive for private investors and also lowers the need for grabbing land. Spatial planning institutions are one of the leverages that could enhance the transition to sustainable degrowth by determining who is allowed to use which land for which purposes. The workshop should offer a place for discussions about democratic aspects of land use and natural resources and its implications for sustainable degrowth.

Issues to be discussed:

- basic requirements and ways to enhance social and ecological sustainable land use
- common goods as a mean for sustainable degrowth
- democratic decision-making on land use and natural (energy) resources
- examples of successful communities in environmental justice and degrowth
- the role of spatial planning institutions for sustainable degrowth

Proponent(s) Petra Wächter, Institute of Technology Assessment of the Austrian Academy of Sciences (Austria)
 Proposed outcome Paper (also online) and/or poster about key factors of democracy aspects of natural resources for sustainable degrowth; common and controversial views; most urgent action fields and possible solutions

58. How to connect the Degrowth movement and the Food Sovereignty

Keywords Right to food, networking, small-scale agriculture
 Description The international community has tackled the challenge of hunger through the paradigm of food security without achieving substantial results to date. Mani Tese believes that the causes of this failure are not contingent, but rather due to the structure of a global agri-alimentary system that, as it is drawn, concentrates the fruits of the land and their profits in the hands of a few and denies access to quality food for everyone else. This view is consistent with what was proposed in 1996 by La Via Campesina. We believe that the solution lies in overcoming the concept of individual rights to food, for which we ask the question "how much should we produce?", and showing the social dimension of this right, questioning "what, how and for whom should we produce?". So far the debate on food sovereignty has been promoted by networks of small producers in collaboration with individual NGOs and associations. The realisation of its principles and values requires the involvement and participation of different actors and firstly among degrowth activists.

Proponent(s) Mani Tese/Giosuè De Salvo (Italy)
 Proposed outcome Activation of exchanging or working networks / campaigning.

59. Constructing sustainable food economies through collective citizens' action for food democracy

Keywords Food citizenship, food democracy, resilient economies
 Description During the past decades, alternative food networks emerged as a promising approach for a transition towards sustainable food systems. Within them, societal actors increasingly link together new forms of 'food citizenship,' going beyond mere economic conceptions of 'production' and 'consumption'. The emergence and growth of these new civic food networks appear to assume a worldwide dimension, as a countermovement to food globalization processes aimed at re-establishing principles of food sovereignty and democracy. Civic food networks are an expression of the autonomous and pro-active role regained by producers and consumers and of their common engagement to build alternatives to the dominant food system, deeply embedded in social and environmental ethics. Their potential, however, seems to go much further and shows the capacity to produce promising transformative effects and trigger wider societal change. As such, it is striking that there are often strong linkages between civic food networks and wider social movements such as de-growth and transition towns, and movements promoting solidarity economies. This workshop aims to further investigate the potential transformative role of civic food networks, both as a strategy facilitating transitions to sustainable and fair food systems and as building block for wider transformations towards resilient economies, in order to identify viable models for societal change. Both scientific contributions and insights from people active in food movements are welcomed.

Proponent(s) Adanella Rossi, Gianluca Brunori, Pisa University (Italy), Henk Renting, University of Córdoba (Spain) and Markus Schermer, Innsbruck University (Austria)

INFORMATION AND IMAGINARY

60. Breaking news: the degrowth

Keywords Information, knowledge, alternatives
 Description Information depends on advertising revenues. The mass media -television, internet and newspapers- depends on resources arisen from advertising and from the sale of "content". Their ultimate goal is entertainment, an attitude that -as Ignacio Ramonet says- has no memory and doesn't imagine the future. The best entertainment means more audience and customers' contacts to sell to advertisers; in such a machine, there is no place for different visions, such as degrowth, based on the measurement of the long-term effects of economic growth and on a plan for the future. The Internet doesn't seem to have altered this machinery: information flows go where there

are more resources and, consequently, into advertising revenues. The end of public support of publishing in Italy has led to the inability of those little experiences who would like to broadcast different contents than mass information market oriented. This doesn't exclude the possibility that we can create media channels, especially on the web, that offer persuasive stories, reports and insights on the alternatives to the market economy. We will bring some good examples of alternatives to media based on market economy (for example: Altreconomia, Le Monde Diplomatique...).

Proponent(s) Pierluigi Sullo, Anna Pizzo, Democrazia Km 0; Marco Palma, Chiara Spadaro, Chiara Sasso (Italy)
Proposed outcome During the workshop we will try to imagine a page of a mainstream newspaper dedicated to degrowth: how will we read the reality through this lens?

61. School, Ecology and Degrowth

Keywords Imagery, ecology, pedagogy

Description We must work for a school system that is culturally appropriate to the emergencies of our time, above all the ecological ones, but at the same time we are not meant to place additional discipline, leaving the curricular structures of various disciplines unchanged and mostly based on a "developmentalist" approach. To change the dominant ideology, it is necessary to question the latter with a Degrowth perspective, and promote alternative educational proposals (a pedagogy of degrowth), which are able to promote a vision of the world not subject to the developmentalist mentality and to the subsequent logic of this domain. Therefore it is necessary to enhance the educational experiences and the theoretical considerations that go in this direction (see, as point of reference to be investigated, the Italian ministerial document "Ecological Alphabets" and comments, to be downloaded in the website: www.filosofiatv.org).

Proponent(s) Associazione eco-filosofica (Italy)