

Sustainable Lifestyles, Livelihoods and the Circular Economy

27-29 June 2017, University of Sussex, Brighton



Third International Conference of the Global Research Forum on Sustainable Production and Consumption

Draft programme (2 March 2017)

Conference organiser: Global Research Forum on Sustainable Production and Consumption

Hosted by: Institute of Development Studies (IDS) and Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU), University of Sussex, United Kingdom

Co-organisers: Tearfund, EU SWITCH-Asia Programme, SCORAI Europe, MORE SL Initiative of the 10YFP Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Programme, and Aalborg University

Contributing partners: Collaborating Centre on Sustainable Consumption and Production (CSCP), Earth System Governance Project, World Resources Forum, Future Earth, SCORAI US, African Circular Economy Network

Day 1: Session 1 (morning)

Circular economy and SCP in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals and climate change

This session explores the interconnections between the circular economy, sustainable consumption and production (SCP) and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Some of the questions explored in the sessions include: What contribution can the circular economy make towards achieving the SDGs? What are the implications of the circular economy for livelihoods and sustainable lifestyles? What are the respective roles of circular economy and sustainable lifestyles in achieving the 1.5 degree climate mitigation target?

Keynote speaker	Janez Potočnik , former EU Environment Commissioner, Co-Chair of the International Resource Panel
Plenary discussion panel and Q&A	John Carstensen , Head of Profession, Climate and Environment, Department for International Development, UK Lewis Akenji , Policy Fellow, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies Jeffrey Barber , President, Integrative Strategies Forum
Followed by breakout sessions and paper presentations	

Day 1: Session 2 (afternoon)

Circular economy: the informal sector, SMEs and livelihoods in developing country contexts

<p>The informal sector in developing countries contributes significantly towards making the circular economy work in both rural areas and cities, but its role is often neglected in discussions about the circular economy. The sessions explore issues around employment opportunities, decent working conditions, fight against poverty, health and education. How can the circular economy generate new employment opportunities, contribute to poverty reduction and promote sustainable livelihoods? How can small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in developing countries be supported in the shift to a circular economy?</p>	
Keynote speaker	Ashish Chaturvedi , Head of Climate Change, GIZ India
Plenary discussion panel and Q&A	Uwe Weber , Team Leader, SWITCH-Asia Network Facility Lucia Fernandez , Waste Pickers Program Coordinator, Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO) Olayiwola Agoro , Chief Scientific Officer at Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, Nigeria (tbc)
Followed by breakout sessions and paper presentations	
Drinks Reception (sponsored by the SWITCH-Asia Programme)	

Day 2: Session 2 (morning)

Circular economy, lifestyles and livelihoods in cities

<p>How can the circular economy enable cities to become sustainable and create inclusive communities? The plenary and breakout sessions explore challenges and opportunities of the circular economy concept in relation to urban development and the interaction with lifestyles and livelihoods in cities in both industrialized and developing countries. It explores how different concepts of circular economy are used in urban contexts, in the transformation of infrastructure, in architectural innovations, and investigates the role of sharing economy initiatives.</p>	
Keynote speaker	Jacqueline Cramer , former Dutch Minister of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment, Chair of Sustainability and Innovation, Utrecht University
Plenary discussion panel and Q&A	Joanna Williams , Senior Lecturer, The Bartlett School of Planning, University College London Nalini Shekar , Founder & Director, Hasiru Dala, Bangalore (tbc) Duncan Baker-Brown , Director & Owner, BBM Sustainable Design Ltd & Senior Lecturer, University of Brighton
Followed by breakout sessions and paper presentations	

Day 2: Session 2 (afternoon)

Sustainable lifestyles, business models and social innovation in the circular economy

<p>This session focuses on the roles of new business models, social innovation, changing cultural norms and consumers in the circular economy. What is the role of new business models, social innovations and the blending of consumer-producer interfaces for the transition to a circular economy? How important are consumer preferences, lifestyle choices and consumer practices? And what are the implications for consumer rights protection and democratisation of resources?</p>	
Keynote speaker	Joss Blériot , Executive Officer, Head of Editorial and Public Affairs, Ellen MacArthur Foundation
Plenary discussion panel and Q&A	Michael Kuhndt , Executive Director, Collaborating Centre on Sustainable Consumption and Production Bas de Leeuw , Managing Director, World Resources Forum Karen Onthank , Executive Director, Integrative Strategies Forum
Followed by breakout sessions and paper presentations	
Conference dinner	

Day 3: Session 1 (morning)

Critiquing the circular economy

This session focuses on critical perspectives towards the circular economy. Where does the circular economy stand in relation to alternative concepts and current academic debates on post-consumerism and de-growth? How can the circular economy better integrate socio-institutional change to achieve cooperation and provide quality employment? Does the circular economy offer prospects for a different economic paradigm and alternative development strategies? Or does the circular economy divert attention from difficult decisions about absolute reductions in natural resource and energy use?	
Keynote speaker	Barbara Muraca , Assistant Professor Philosophy, Oregon State University
Plenary discussion panel and Q&A	Kersty Hobson , Senior Lecturer, School of Planning and Geography, Cardiff University Philip Vergragt , Fellow, Tellus Institute, Professor Emeritus of Technology Assessment at Delft University of Technology, Research Professor at Clark University
Followed by breakout sessions, workshops and paper presentations	

Day 3: Session 2 (afternoon)

Conference summary

Closing remarks & conference summary	Vanessa Timmer , Executive Director, One Earth
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