



## **ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS IN ACTION: BUILDING A REFLECTIVE AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY**

***Call for papers for the 12<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the European Society for Ecological Economics***

***20-23 June 2017, Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary***

### **CONFERENCE OBJECTIVE AND THEMES**

Ecological economics has always aspired to have systemic impacts on human behaviour and institutional structures. Since its foundation in 1996, the European Society for Ecological Economics (ESEE) has combined diverse knowledge systems and disciplinary concepts and tools to foster sustainability. After two decades of scholarly work and community-building, it is timely to now reflect on our achievements and impacts.

Today's challenges require true engagement and novel solutions from ecological economics. Academic and practitioner communities must enact meaningful participative and mutually empowering activities across disciplines and different knowledge systems. Ecological economics can contribute to generating inclusive and reflective research in a number of ways: as transformative science; as advocacy for non-human beings and future generations; as advocacy for environmental and social justice; as policy science; through understanding and promotion of broadly defined well-being; and through empirical insights and real-life impacts. Scientific and governance practices should be closely linked to the explicit spatial context of ecosystems and the biosphere, taking into account the needs of the non-human world. The 12<sup>th</sup> International Conference of ESEE aims to support this reflective and responsible turn in sustainability science in general and ecological economics in particular.

The conference will bring together diverse sets of actors who are engaged in co-producing ecological economics insights and advice for responsible and creative pathways towards sustainability. We seek to open up disciplinary boundaries through collaboration and discussion with conservation biology, environmental psychology and sociology, political ecology, social anthropology (amongst others), as well as through critical engagement and mutual learning with practitioners and local community efforts that aim to realise transformation towards sustainability. Novel socio-ecological insights and dialogues aim to encourage pathways to individual, collective and institutional change by virtue of collaboration, connection and meaningful knowledge-sharing through diverse expressions of human thought.

## **1. Ecological Economics as Transformative Science**

- 1.1. Philosophical and methodological reflections: epistemology, theory and praxis integrated, action research and action learning, arts-based research on sustainability, indigenous perspectives, activism
- 1.2. Ethics of transformative research: reflections on research relationships
- 1.3. Ecological economics in sustainability and degrowth transformations: intended and unintended effects of ecological economics research and education
- 1.4. Science-society contributions to sustainability transformation: citizen science, community-based research, participatory action research, responsible research and innovation, science shops

## **2. Ecological Economics as Transdisciplinary Environmental Science**

- 2.1. A post-normal and/or post-disciplinary science: who has a place within, which actors and whose knowledge? Utopias, heterotopias, nowtopias
- 2.2. Imitating and learning from Nature: green urbanism, nature-based solutions, ecosystem-based adaptation, circular economy, bio-economy, green economy, etc. under critical scrutiny
- 2.3. Ecosystem services: complexity, financialisation, trade-offs, valuation
- 2.4. Natural resource management: adaptation, conservation, control, empowerment, governance, participation, resilience, sustainable use

## **3. Ecological Economics as Critical Inquiry for Advocacy and Justice**

- 3.1. Research as advocacy: Representing the voiceless (human and non-human) world
- 3.2. Gender in ecological economics: feminist perspectives, queer ecologies
- 3.3. Reflections on justice: Indigenous and Local Knowledge (ILK) and Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) holders as legitimate actors in sustainability science; climate, environmental and social justice; conflicts and social movements
- 3.4. Bringing power back in: power of science on knowledge production and use, inclusion and exclusion in ecological economics, political ecology and the ecological economics discourse

## **4. Ecological Economics as Policy Science for Institutional Change**

- 4.1. Facilitating social change and sustainability transformation: behavioural, historical and cross-cultural approaches
- 4.2. Technological-social-ecological systems in co-evolution
- 4.3. Structures of global domination: critical perspectives on global sustainable development policy making and global institutional structures (biodiversity, climate, trade and investment, etc.)
- 4.4. Biodiversity and ecosystem services in the policy arena: critical assessment of global, national, regional and local policy processes, incentives and institutions, governance regimes
- 4.5. Social metabolism and systems approaches: ecological macroeconomics, mapping and modelling consumption-production systems, social-ecological systems

## **5. Well-being in Ecological Economics**

- 5.1. Strategies for transformation to a low carbon economy (climate adaptation, energy transformation, etc.)
- 5.2. Community economy, solidarity economy, social entrepreneurship: ways of creating linked prosperity
- 5.3. Strategies towards degrowth: increasing human well-being in a bounded economy
- 5.4. Health and well-being: whose health, whose well-being, whose rights and whose capabilities?

## **6. Empirical Insights and Real-life Impacts by Ecological Economics**

- 6.1. Studying social-ecological systems: how to bring together diverse disciplines, variety of knowledges, a rich pool of tools and instruments?
- 6.2. Studying consumption-production systems, supply chains and business sustainability
- 6.3. Studying meaning-making: attitudes, behaviour, cognition, emotion, norms, values
- 6.4. Studying education and teaching: diverse pedagogies, co-learning, classroom-based action research

## SUBMISSION PROCESS

### Abstracts for papers and posters

For papers and posters, please submit an **extended abstract** (min. 4000, max. 8000 characters) by **25 November 2016 (Extended deadline 5 December)**. Extended abstracts may include references (not counted in the word total). Submissions will be peer-reviewed before being accepted. Each author cannot submit more than two abstracts as first (lead) author.

A prize for the best student paper presented at the conference will be awarded. There will be a dedicated poster session, and a 'best poster' prize will be awarded at the conference.

Grants will be available through application.

Extended abstracts may be submitted via the conference website: [www.esee2017budapest.org](http://www.esee2017budapest.org). The online submission system will be open from September 2016.

## PRE-CONFERENCE EVENT

We are inviting postgraduate students, PhD students and early-stage researchers who will attend the ESEE 2017 conference to be part of the ESEE Summer School 2017. The theme of the summer school is *IMPACT: approaches and tools for enhancing the social and policy impact of your research*. The event will be between 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> June 2017 in Budapest. The aim of the summer school is to explore and reflect on the real life impact of our own research activities. Senior researchers will supervise the 30 selected students and they will promote discussions, experience exchange and self-reflection among the participants with the introduction of some thought provoking topic such as citizen science, science shops, community engagement and participatory action research.

Further information about themes and the application process will be posted on the website: [www.esee2017budapest.org](http://www.esee2017budapest.org)

## KEY DATES

Special session deadline	7 October 2016
Abstract submission deadline - Extended	5 December 2016
Application for Pre-conference PhD summer school	31 January 2017
Notification of acceptance	15 February 2017
Registration (early bird)	13 March 2017
Registration for presenting authors	1 May 2017
Full papers for best student paper	31 May 2017
Pre-conference PhD summer school	18-20 June 2017
ESEE 2017 conference	20-23 June 2017

## CONFERENCE VENUE

The conference venue is located at the **Corvinus University of Budapest (8 Fővám tér, 1093 Budapest)**

The venue is situated at the historical centre of Budapest on the Pest side of the river Danube. The main building of the University (former Customs Palace) and a modern building next to it are offered as the venue. The venue is very centrally located at the heart of Budapest. There are plentiful accommodation options available in all ranges within walking distance (from 5-15 minutes) from the University offering reasonable prices. Prices range from 60-90€ in the 3-4 star category, but other options (downwards or upwards) are also available in a wide range. The venue can be conveniently accessed by public transport from the main railway stations and the Budapest Airport, too.



## SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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The conference is jointly organised by the European Society for Ecological Economics in collaboration with the Corvinus Business School of Corvinus University of Budapest.

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The Local Organising Committee is strongly committed to make ESEE 2017 as sustainable as possible, particularly focusing on decreasing the environmental footprint of the event.

## CONTACT

For the latest information, visit the conference website at: [www.esee2017budapest.org](http://www.esee2017budapest.org)

Please direct any technical enquires to: [esee2017@wecotravel.hu](mailto:esee2017@wecotravel.hu)