



**3rd International Conference  
INTEGRAL GREEN ECONOMY FOR A BETTER WORLD:**

**INTEGRAL GREEN SLOVENIA, EUROPE AND THE WORLD  
TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

**Ljubljana, Slovenia, 31 January 2017**

## First Announcement

Citizens' Initiative for an Integral Green Slovenia and Trans4m Center for Integral Development from Geneva, together with more than 20 organisations and institutions from Slovenia, would like to invite social innovators from various areas, including policy and decision makers, to join the all-day **3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference Integral Green Economy for a Better World**. The title of the conference that will take place in Ljubljana, Slovenia, on Tuesday, 31 January 2017, is **Integral Green Slovenia, Europe and the World towards Sustainable Development Goals**.

The conference follows the previous conferences on Integral Green Economy in 2013 and 2014 in Slovenia and the release of the Gower and Routledge book [Integral Green Slovenia](#) in June 2016.

### CONFERENCE BACKGROUND AND FOCUS

Global challenges are here and now, and in the future we can expect even more of them, with an increase in their intensity and complexity. Acknowledging the immense challenges to sustainable development, complemented by the recognition that we also live in a time of multiple opportunities, led the Heads of State and Government and High Representatives at the UN Summit in September 2015 to adopt the document "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", containing 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 associated targets. This ambitious agenda will have to be strongly supported by equally ambitious and integrally framed, holistic, trans-sectoral policies for sustainable development. A number of integral approaches, many originating in Europe, have helped to shift our global perspective towards a more integral one and can, undoubtedly, assist in implementing the Agenda 2030.

In the context of a world on fire, multiple crises in Europe and other regions of the world raise concerns that European Union is even facing a threat of disintegration. Among various initiatives and attempts to resurrect the grandeur of Europe are also those in which we can find inspiration for the new European Renaissance (e.g., in [Science and Technology](#) by EURAB in 2009, [The Appeal of 9 May](#) in 2016).

In a unique approach to fuse and upgrade the paradigms of sustainability and integrality, a new, integral conceptual framework (the *Integral Worlds* paradigm) has been developed by Trans4m Center for Integral Development in Geneva, and elaborated, *inter alia*, in the realm of economy. In a unique process of co-construction, Trans4m and the Citizens' Initiative for an Integral Green Slovenia have applied this new framework within the innovation ecosystem of the European Union, on the level of individual sustainable enterprises and local communities, but also on national level, and depicted this multidimensional and

multi-layered process in the Gower and Routledge book [Integral Green Slovenia](#) (Piciga, Schieffer and Lessem, 2016).

**The Conference will focus on presenting a possible contribution of an Integral Green Economy and Society approach, with Slovenia as a Pilot Country, to a New European Renaissance in the context of Sustainable Development Agenda.** At the same time the event represents a powerful co-learning, research and networking opportunity for Slovenian and international (primarily Trans4m network) participants of the conference, with a view to future cooperation.

## OUTLINE OF THE CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

The main task of the morning plenary session is to identify the key drivers to integral renewal of the European Union, in the framework of the Sustainable Development Agenda, with special attention to the drivers and areas with large volumes of unutilized, or less utilized, fragmented potentials. Such drivers will then be represented in the main parallel streams of the conference, to conclude, in the afternoon plenary session, with a collective harvest and joint message on a New European Renaissance Societal and Economic Renewal on a Global Scale, in the framework of the Agenda 2030.

In the process of co-creating an Integral Green Slovenia in the innovation ecosystem of the EU, and based on analysis of present situation in Europe and beyond from an integral perspective, the following three streams were identified as highly relevant through, *inter alia*, recognising the wealth of their (unutilized) potentials:

1. Cultural and Natural Heritage for Integral Renewal of Slovenia and Europe, In and For Community
2. Social Knowledge-Based Economy: Strengths and Opportunities in Slovenia and Europe; a Promising Path towards SDGs
3. Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and for an Integral Age (EIA)

Each stream will include short presentations of relevant EU policies (strategies) and their implementation (programmes, regulations), followed by Slovenian cases (e.g. Domel, The Heart of Slovenia, Solčavsko, Biotechnical Centre Naklo, Kindergarten Slovenska Bistrica and the Dravinja Valley), and will be enriched by relevant comparative Expertise and Contexts of Trans4m's research and enterprise community from Africa (Sekem in Egypt, Integral Banking in Nigeria, FoodLovers Academy in South Africa), in the UK (Solidarity Economy, Center for Integral Finance, Cultural Renewal and Community Development in Liverpool) and Jordan (The International Baccalaureate Programmes).

## CONFIRMED SPEAKERS

**In alphabetical order\*:** Laila Abdul-Majeed (Jordan), Maximilian Abouleish (Egypt), Jubril Adejo (Nigeria), Martina Bavec, Tony Bradley (UK), Frans Van der Colff (South Africa), Robert Dellner (Sweden/UK), Aleksandra Gradišek, Karin Lavin, Ivana Leskovar, Prof Ronnie Lessem, Prof Barica Marentič Požarnik, Goran Milošević, Dr Darja Piciga, Marko Pogačnik, Dr Jožica Rejec, Prof Alexander Schieffer, Dr Peter Skoberne, Marko Slapnik, Tadej Slapnik, Jernej Stritih, Prof Ana Vovk Korže

\* (country) only for non-Slovenian speakers

## ORGANIZING AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

Dr Darja Piciga (Chair), Dr Nevenka Bogataj, Prof Ronnie Lessem, Andrej Kranjc, MSc, Prof Alexander Schieffer, Tadej Slapnik

## INFORMATION ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

**Venue of the Conference:** European Union House, Dunajska 20, Ljubljana, Slovenia

**Further information and registration: e-mail:** [integralnaslovenija@gmail.com](mailto:integralnaslovenija@gmail.com). No conference fee, for registration send your name, affiliation and contact details to [integralnaslovenija@gmail.com](mailto:integralnaslovenija@gmail.com).

**PLEASE FOLLOW THE CONFERENCE WEBSITE ON** <http://integralna-zelena-slovenija.si/>