International Conference CSS

Connecting Civil Society and Science
A Key Challenge for Change towards Sustainable Development

20 – 21 October, 2011

Stuttgart, Germany

Call for Papers

Civil society and its organisations (CSO) play a vital role in the implementation of sustainable development (SD). Civil society actors exhibit special features, they are to a large degree driven by visions or ideals, place a focus on common action (thus balancing individual and collective goals), participate in and initiate discourses about SD in society, enhance social capital, and share a non-economical (non-efficiency driven) world view.

Given these characteristics, CSOs show some specific shortcomings: a non-economical worldview leads to less efficient pursuit of SD goals and to a weak representation in political and economical decision-processes; initiating discourses often excludes evidence-based

thinking, giving away chances for increased self-reflexivity and learning (and thus both more efficiency as well as efficacy); and a lack of institutionalisation within existing institutional frameworks of governance provide not sufficient leverage to influence policy making (politics, administrative/legislative processes).

Apart from these more general shortcomings, there are numerous specific and context-related issues that would need to be researched/reflected in order to increase efficiency and benefits of CSOs. In the light of this perspective, the CSS Conference 2011 is interested in submissions from the fields of science and society that are adding to the following core topics and questions, which we would like to discuss:

a) Theoretical Perspectives on Civil Society and Sustainability

- Theoretical Concepts of Civil Society

- Management of Civil Society Organizations

- Contribution of Civil Society to Sustainable Development

b) Case Studies on Civil Society and Sustainability

- Insights from Implementation Practice

- Tools and Methods for Civil Society Organizations

- New Issues in Sustainable Development for Civil Society Organizations

c) Collaboration between Science and Civil Society

- Critical Success Factors

- Reflexivity in Collaboration Processes

- Project Design for Collaboration

We are welcoming both practice- as well as science-oriented contributions that suit the scope of these topics and questions and aim at contributing to an interdisciplinary conference based on evidence from practice and science.

Keynote Speakers

[Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Ortwin Renn](#)

Director of Dialogik Expert

Professor of Environmental Sociology and Technology Assessment at the University of Stuttgart

[Dr. Joachim Spangenberg](#)

Research Coordinator, Vice Chair

Sustainable Europe Research Institute SERI Germany e.V.

[Gilles Laroche](#)

Head of Unit for Governance and Ethics

Science in Society

European Comission

Further Keynote Speakers tba

Program (preliminary)

Thursday: 20 October 2011

8.30-9.00	Registration and Breakfast
9.00-9.30	Welcome Notes (Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Renn, Dr. Reichel)
9.30-10.15	Keynote Speaker I: Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Renn
10.15-10.30	Coffee Break
10.30-12.00	Presentations: Focus Theory
12.00-13.30	Lunch
13.30-14.15	Keynote Speaker II: Dr. Spangenberg
14.15-15.45	Presentations: Focus Practice
15.45-16.00	Coffee Breack

16.00-17.30	Presentations: Focus Practice
17.30-18.00	Closing Day I
20.00-22.00	Conference Dinner

Friday: 21 October 2011

9.00-10.00	Keynote III: Gilles Laroche
10.00-10.15	Coffee Break
10.15-11.45	World Café Workshops
11.45-13.30	Lunch
13.30-14.15	Reports from the Workshops and Discussion
14.15-15.00	Keynote IV: Future of RP 7 and 8
15.00-16.00	Closing Coffee and Networking

How to participate?

We highly welcome participants with and without own contributions.

For contributors, please submit your abstract (500-1000 words) at 31st May 2011 to conference@project-css.eu

All abstracts will be double-blind refereed by an international reviewer committee.

Notification of acceptance will be on 30th June 2011. In case of acceptance we ask you to submit your full paper (6000-8000 words) at 22th August 2011 the latest.

Selected papers will be published in an EU Guide Book shortly after the conference.

Venue

[International Conference Venue Universtiy of Stuttgart](#)

Villa Eulenhof

Robert-Leicht-Str. 161

70569 Stuttgart

Accommodation

[Commundo Conference Hotel Stuttgart](#) (very close to the conference venue, 5min walk)

[Hotel Rieker](#) (near central station, 10min by metro + 5min walk)

[Studentenhotel Stuttgart](#) (students hotel but also open for public, 15min by metro + 5min walk)

Fees and Registration

Fees

Scientific Researchers: 100 €

Practitioners: 70 €

PhD/Students: 50 €

Travel grants can be exceptionally provided after consideration

Registration

For registration, please address your payment to:

BIC-/SWIFT-Code: SOLADES1ULM

IBAN-Nummer: DE54 6305 0000 0002 1020 54

Bank: Sparkasse Ulm

Keyword (fill in necessarily): **CSO2011**

Conference Committee

- [Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Ortwin Renn](#), Director of Dialogik Expert, Professor of Environmental Sociology and Technology Assessment at the University of Stuttgart
- [Dr. André Reichel](#), Project CSS Coordinator
- [Dr. Joa Bauer](#), Board member unw. e.V., CSO expert in the German tandem of CSS
- [Dr. Zoltán Ferencz](#), Hungarian Academy of Science, Research Partner Project CSS
- [Gilles Heriard-Dubreuil](#), Director of Mutadis, Research Partner Project CSS
- [Lukas Scheiber](#), MA, Project CSS

Contact

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our conference office:

conference@project-css.eu or scheiber@dialogik-expert.de

PLEASE FIND UPDATED INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE: http://www.project-css.eu