

January, 2015

Eco-Innovaera Newsletter



ECO-INNOVERA

**Boosting
Eco-Innovation
through
cooperation in
research and
dissemination**

ECO-INNOVERA Final Conference

The Conference held in Copenhagen on the 17th and 18th of September, was a big success. Representatives from different organizations, SME's, policy institutions from 24 different countries, attended to this event and support with high valuable thoughts and exchange of experience.

The European Commission presented its view on the future of Systemic eco-innovation and highlighted the importance of cooperation and attested that for having a low impact on society and economy, is not enough doing more with less but doing differently to do better and use less.

The panel speakers underlined how important systemic eco-innovation is and presented examples and solutions that could be of relevance for decision making at policy and research level.

On the discussion tables, the participants had the possibility of exchange experiences and ideas and establish good networking connections for possible project cooperation.

Evelyn Echeverria, coordinator

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Eco-funding opportunities

H2020 2015 calls for proposals are published on the EC participant portal: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/index.html>

Eco-events

29th-30th January 2015
Third Annual Conference of the Green Growth Knowledge Platform Venice, Veneto, Italy

29th January 2015
Workshop "Fast Track to Innovation & SME Instrument" Brussels, Belgium

6th March 2015 Academic Workshop Program Green and sustainable innovations in Smart Cities: Business Models and Ecosystems Nice, France

22nd - 24th April 2015
GreenXpo Final Conference Jyväskylä, Finland

15th - 17th June 2015
Innovative Enterprise Week Riga, Latvia

9th-10th November 2015
SUSTAINABLE INNOVATION 2015 'State of the Art' Sustainable Innovation & Design Epsom, Surrey, UK

ECO-INNOVERA highlights of the Final Conference

At the Final Conference ECO-INNOVERA has presented the findings of its systemic approach on eco-innovation in Copenhagen (European Green Capital 2014) to more than 100 key players from 24 countries, from policy makers and scientists to SME-representatives and partner networks in research and development in eco-innovation.

The discussions were focused on:

- **Research for eco-innovation:** ECO-INNOVERA's views on systemic eco-innovation, and funded projects.
- **Effective co-operation for eco-innovation:** Highlighting key actions, tools and successes.
- **Building the case for future co-operation:** Towards a shared vision for systemic eco-innovation.

SESSION II LEARNING FOR EFFECTIVE ECO-INNOVATION-

The session opened with the presentation "Systemic Innovation at the heart of the ECO-INNOVERA Approach" by Richard Miller from TSB- UK on the ECO-INNOVERA Research Strategy on systemic eco-innovation.

Round Tables Session ECO-INNOVERA funded projects and Strategy

The session opened with a presentation of the results of the ECO-INNOVERA Joint calls and the transnational research. At the end of the project period, final ECO-INNOVERA had 12 jointly funded projects running (focus on sustainable eco-innovation and systemic features).

SESSION III EFFECTIVE COOPERATION FOR ECO-INNOVATION

Draw recommendations for policy development projects

- Integrate key actors (including policy makers) in the program settings and the evaluation process of projects
- Integrate impact on policies in the IA of the RTD-programmes

How to support Innovation?

- Try to support on the long term demonstration platforms. There is a gap between research and industrialization; need to support more pilots and demonstration projects.

SESSION IV SHAPING AND SCALING FUTURE COOPERATION

The partners in ECO-INNOVERA have liaised through-out the project with related networks and projects to identify common ground and opportunities for synergy and joint action. The key networks were given the floor during the Final Conference with the aim to discuss mutual areas of interest, identify starting points for future co-operation, and translate these into concrete action. 9 Areas for cooperation were discussed in the final 'Open Space' Session; all discussions resulted in starting points and a list of committed organisations and experts per area. For some of the areas, concrete follow up actions for 2015 were agreed upon.

The identified areas for joint action were:

- 1) Virtual call for tenders,
- 2) Systemic Innovation Think Tank,
- 3) Education and training for systemic approaches,
- 4) Platform for MS coordination of research and market uptake,
- 5) Linking sustainable business models to systemic change,
- 6) Create attractive best cases,
- 7) European roadmap and investments for systemic eco-innovation,
- 8) New ways of monitoring impact of systemic eco-innovation policies,
- 9) Accelerate innovation through more industry engagement

ECO-INNOVERA Final Conference Testimonials

- Learn more about learning, both on existing theories and practices, interactive learning, community learning and second-order learning.
- Adjusting goals while working
- Communicate the “win” in the future situation for each stakeholder group separately in their specific language, allowing a common framework with a common concrete goal. Break in that down into concrete steps
- We need actions instead of more think tanks
- Bring eco-innovation to the market and → concentrate on diffusion
- Make eco-innovation attractive and understandable and use best practice examples
- The dialogue between researchers, policy makers and industry is important
- Stay in touch with each other even if the funding ends
- Interaction among different actors is crucial. Keeping their autonomy but pushing them for eco innovation and keeping an open way for communication and feedback.
- It is important to understand which are the needs and motivators of the stakeholders group in order to address them in an effective way
- Define challenges and build a mechanism to steer the community n supporting the achievement of these challenges with their ideas and energy
- A platform to look at the links between new sustainable business models and systemic innovation would be very useful
- There is a need for systemic change and transition to a new dimension. The present economic system needs to evolve
- Keep updated !
- There is a need for innovation, driven by the civil society, e.g. ‘Grassroots Innovation increasing, e.g. ‘makers, modifiers & fixers’.
- To create any change we will need business, policy AND civil society to be engaged. See www.cfsd.org.uk/news/circular-economy-innovation;
- The grassroots innovators’ are part of an emerging trend that has possibility to move beyond ,niches’
- Juncker’s top priority: Jobs & Growth → Environment → Green Growth → Crucial role of (systemic) eco-innovation & involvement of all key actors (including ECO-INNOVERA)

Eco-Innovera’s highlights

ECO-INNOVERA working for a future network

The ECO-INNOVERA partners cooperate in research for eco-innovation to support the uptake of available green technologies, practices and products, and alternative human behavioural and organisational patterns at the level of company, sector, value-chain, economy or society. The results will increase the capabilities, necessary to bring about systemic changes that lead to preservation of natural resources, climate and bio-diversity, but also generate new possibilities of businesses and jobs.

The ECO-INNOVERA Network anno 2015 builds upon the results of its transnational cooperation during the previous 4-years. It has a flexible structure, both geographical and in terms of content. We operate closely with a wide range of networks of different scopes and sectors, we liaise on a regular basis with the European Commission and we have an occasional look at the development and examples of eco-innovation in countries outside Europe.

ECO-INNOVERA’s future events and workshops

ECO-INNOVERA Future network

**Resource Efficiency
Workshop on systemic
eco-innovation**
Spring, 2015

**Final Conference of
funded projects
under ECO-
INNOVERA**
Autumn, 2015



Objectives of the continued cooperation in 2015 – 2016:

- 1) Increase the uptake of available green technologies, practices, and products, and alternative human behavioural and organisational patterns on European, national and regional levels by tailored communication on best practices from the ongoing ECO-INNOVERA Projects and others;
- 2) Identification of priorities for systemic approach and dissemination of the systemic eco-innovation concept;
- 3) Expand knowledge and capabilities for effective transition policies.
- 4) Think-Tank and Best Practices Assessment (intensive mutual cooperation with key stakeholders)
- 5) Support on the development of a systemic eco-innovation agenda of Member-States, national/regional funding organisations and the European Commission
- 6) Provide continuous input to the preparations of the Horizon2020 work programme 2016-2017 on the topic of systemic eco-innovation

The activities concentrate on exchange and of knowledge and experiences, both virtual and in person (organisation of workshops and participating in conferences). More information: eco-innova.eu and LinkedIn ECO-INNOVERA group.

Eco-Interesting!

How to go about Responsible Research and Innovation-Social Sciences and Humanities in ICT-related areas of Work Programme 2016-2017?

Workshop organised to discuss about the mainstreaming of Responsible Research and Innovation and the integration of SSH (social sciences and humanities) in the research to be called for in the next workprogramme, i.e. WP16-17.

<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/news/workshop-rri-ssh-ict-related-parts-horizon-2020-wp16-17>

Smart, Green and Integrated Transport Information Day, save the date!

The aim of the day is to inform potential participants in the next round of calls under the Smart, Green and Integrated Transport Challenge of the new Horizon 2020 Framework Programme and to offer opportunities for networking.

The sessions will deliver a brief presentation of the surface transport, the aviation and the cross-cutting topics of the Transport challenge Work Programme 2015.

http://ec.europa.eu/research/transport/events/infoday2015/index_en.htm

The Eco-Innovation Project (UNEP)

Promoting Resource Efficiency and Eco-innovation in Developing and Transition Economies (REEDTE)

<http://www.unep.org/resourceefficiency/Business/CleanerSaferProduction/Eco-InnovationTheUNEPApproach/TheEco-InnovationProject/tabid/106016/Default.aspx>



Join Eco-Innova's LinkedIn group!

The ECO-INNOVERA Network has its own Linked-IN group! You can find interesting articles, news and information on other networks. With a growing number of members, this can be the platform for Eco-Innovation beyond the ERA-Net work.

Join us at <http://www.tinyurl.com/ecoinnova>.