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**Newsletter on Economic Degrowth for Ecological Sustainability and Social Equity
November 2009**

Outline

1. Degrowth today: news and developments
2. Reports and publications
3. Upcoming events

****Please feel free to send us any information on upcoming events, publications or developments related to Degrowth by November 30!****

1. Degrowth today: news and developments

Green shoots before the recovery.

Speaking in Copenhagen, Nicholas Stern explained how we can use the economic downturn to tackle climate change and poverty

(The Guardian, from 12 March 09)

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cif-green/2009/mar/12/copenhagen-climate-change>

“the current economic depression gives the world a unique, unrepeatable opportunity to tackle climate change and poverty. The resources that we need to transform the global economy, he explained – raw materials, skilled labour and industrial capacity – are now far more available, and at a far lower cost, than they were during the boom years, and we should use them.”

Stern: Rich nations will have to forget about growth to stop climate change

Economic expansion cannot be achieved forever if greenhouse gases are to be curbed, warns the leading economist and author of the UK's government's report on climate change

(The Guardian, from 11 September 09)

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/sep/11/stern-economic-growth-emissions>

"At some point we would have to think about whether we want future growth. We don't have to do that now."

(The Ecologist, 25 September 09)

“The transition to a low-carbon economy over the next four decades, if we get our policies right, will be among the most dynamic periods of growth in human history. And when we get there it will be more energy secure, quieter, cleaner, safer and more biodiverse.

New website launched: <http://degrowthpedia.org>

In partnership with Research & Degrowth a new information website based in USA, in english language, has been launched.

DegrowthPedia is a collaborative information network dedicated to the notion of degrowth. The purpose of DegrowthPedia is to provide information as accurate and comprehensible as possible in order to explain to anyone what the notion of degrowth is and what it implies. The strength of this website is that it is based on a collaborative basis and will allow any one to contribute and to benefit from the other contributions.

Degrowth in meat and fish consumption

Decline in meat and fish consumption from 1000 kcal to 500 kcal per person is required in 2050 in order to answer essential needs according to French prospective from INRA and CIRAD. More info at (in French):

http://www.inra.fr/audiovisuel/web_tv/colloques/agrimonde/caron
http://www.cirad.fr/upload/fr/actualite/0209Synthese_Agrimonde2.pdf

The MEDEF, the french union of business managers has organised a meeting on degrowth in France last summer. The enterprise managers seem convinced of the problems associated with continuous growth. Nevertheless they often do not see other solution than reducing population.

<http://www.etp-sa.com/UE2009/demiJournee2.html>

The Sustainable Consumption Research and Action Initiative (SCORAI)

The North American research community SCORAI has strong sympathies with degrowth. Scientists, academics, and practitioners from across North America met at Clark University on October 15-17 to explore approaches and the potential impact of sustainable consumption at the individual and household level. The Sustainable Consumption Research and Action Initiative (SCORAI) evaluates and encourages new pathways to sustainability at the interface of material consumption, human fulfilment, lifestyle satisfaction, and technological and macroeconomic change. The network seeks to facilitate the production and diffusion of theoretical and practical knowledge and to forge connections between scholars and communities of practice in North America in order to contribute to the policy dialogue on sustainable consumption.

More information available at: <http://www.SCORAI.org>

3. Upcoming events

“**Towards an International Degrowth Network**”, an event featuring Mauro Bonaiuti (University of Turin), Leida Rijnhout (ANPED), Stephen Spratt (NEF), Andre Reichel (Stuttgart University) , and Tim Jackson (University of Surrey), January 12th, 6:30 pm at the Hub King's Cross

Growth in Transition

International Conference, 28-29 January 2010

www.growthintransition.eu

Organizers: Sustainable Europe Research Institute and Karina Consult

The Second International Conference on Economic Degrowth for Ecological Sustainability and Social Equity MARCH 26-29

DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACTS : NOVEMBER 30!

www.degrowth.net/-Barcelona2010

The Barcelona conference follows from the successful first conference on degrowth, which took place in Paris in 2008. The second conference on degrowth will unite scientists and civil society organizations into thinking about policy proposals and research priorities. While the conference will include a plenary with keynote speakers, its main component consists of working groups that discuss and develop concrete proposals and report to the general assembly. Scientific presentations on various topic will be conducted in the form of posters.

Towards Car-free Cities IX Conference – York 2010

'How Do We Get There?'

28 June - 1 July, 2010, York, United Kingdom

A registration form and additional information can be found at www.worldcarfree.net/conference/.

18th International Input-Output Conference

"Re-thinking economic growth towards sustainability and well-being: after the financial crisis, what comes next?"

20 – 25 June, 2010, Sydney, Australia

Please submit abstracts for papers before December 31, 2009

www.isa.org.usyd.edu.au/io_2010/

3. Reports and publications

Is our economy fit for purpose in a low carbon world? Can economic growth deliver us from the threat of catastrophic climate change, or is it the engine that's driving us relentlessly towards it?

http://www.enn.com/press_releases/3144

*A presentation of the book Prosperity Without Growth, by Tim Jackson.
An Economics Fit for a Low-Carbon Future – a debate on 2 November*

Voluntary Simplicity The Poetic Alternative to Consumer Culture

A book of essays by leading figures in the Voluntary Simplicity Movement, edited by Samuel Alexander.

“One promising way to lessen our impact on nature is to reject consumer culture and embrace 'a simpler life' of reduced consumption. This way of life has come to be known as voluntary simplicity, which Duane Elgin has famously defined as 'a manner of living that is outwardly simple and inwardly rich, a deliberate choice to live with less in the belief that more life will be returned to us in the process'. An enticing invitation to a sustainable future, this anthology brings together some of the most important literature on this quietly emerging way of life.

Le consensus, source d'emancipation? (in French)

An issue on consensus in Silence, November 2009

www.revuesilence.net

La décroissance économique pour la soutenabilité écologique et l'équité sociale, Mylondo (Ed), Recherche et Décroissance

Collection Ecologica, Editions du Croquant: Bellecombe-en-bauge
(in French)

The book **Sustainable Futures: Replacing Growth Imperative and Hierarchies with Sustainable Ways** presents the results of a worldwide search for sustainable cultures: past, present and future. Focus is on environmental sustainability and human dignity of all. The editors, Marko Ulvila and Jarna Pasanen, take an innovative look at the dynamics of environmental problems from a cultural class perspective. They define three cultural classes – over-consuming, sustainable and struggling – and describe different future scenarios for each of them. For the overconsuming class degrowth, intentional contraction of economy, is suggested. A free pdf copy of the book can be downloaded from <http://www.sustainablefutures.fi/> and received upon request from keoinfo@formin.fi

Buen Vivir, Per una nuova democrazia della terra, *DA OGGI IN LIBRERIA*

Presentation of book by Giuseppe De Marzo

Roma, martedì 17 novembre, ore 17.30

La Feltrinelli Librerie, Via V. E. Orlando

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