ADVANCED COURSE ON LOCAL SUSTAINABILITY AND ACTION

November 7-17, 2010

Detailed Agenda

Saturday, November 8		
	Venic	e
	ARRIVAL	

Monday, Novem	iber 9
	Venice
	Venice International University
INTRODUCTION	
	OPENING CEREMONY - WELCOME
09:00 – 9:45	Prof. Ignazio Musu, Venice International University
09:00 - 9:45	Marta Szigeti Bonifert, Regional Environmental Center
	Stefania Romano, Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea
	Introduction to Course: Course Objectives and Agenda Review
9:45 – 10:00	Srdjan Susic, Regional environmental Center
9:45 - 10:00	Elaine Wright, University of Pennsylvania
	Selina Angelini, Venice Interantional University
10:00 - 10:30	Coffee Break
	Lecture: Is Development Possible Without Environmental Protection?
	Marta Szigeti Bonifert, Regional Environmental Center
10:30 - 11.00	Sustainability is a process where environmental, social and economics meet long term thinking, meeting our basic needs, redefining success, inclusive governance, sharing natural resources equitably and protecting the global ecosystem. We have yet to build and offer an honest vision of an attractive, feasible and viable way of life. Old problems will not be solved by old methods. If the world reaches sustainability, the gains of the now affluent will be peace, health and security, and not the possibility of more material consumption.
11:00 – 11:30	Lecture: Sustainable Development: Building a Green Economy
	Prof. Ignazio Musu, Venice International University
	The current question discussed by prof. Musu is: Does it make sense to speak of building a "green economy" in a situation where economic recovery is still the policy priority?". He will debate this issue looking through the current policies and different approaches defining the possible three pillars of the green economy.

	Lecture: Social Capital Predicts Happiness over Time: Evidence from Macro and Micro Data
	Prof. Stefano Bartolini, University of Siena
11:30 – 12:00	In recent years, animated interdisciplinary discussion has been fuelled by the evidence that, in the long-term, people's subjective well-being is not significantly influenced by increases in GDP. Other factors, as the quality of intimate and social relationships that individuals experience, have a greater influence on their well-being. Stefano Bertolini will summarize the evidence, from micro and macro data in several developed and developing countries, showing that the evolution over time of sociability is a major predictor of the trends of subjective well-being.
	Discussion: How Politics and Economics Impact Sustainable Development
12:00 – 12:30	Prof. Ignazio Musu, Venice International University
12.00 – 12.30	Marta Szigeti Bonifert, Regional Environmental Center
	Prof. Stefano Bartolini, University of Siena
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch
	Workshop: Introductions and Expectations
	Selina Angelini, Venice Interantional University
13:30 -14:30	Elaine Wright, University of Pennsylvania
	The workshop aim first of all at discussing the participants' expectations about the advanced training course and then at promoting the introduction of the participants each other in other to ecncurage the network of sustainability.
	Panel Discussion – Local Implementation of SD Principles
	Three Alumni
14:30 – 15:30	In their speeches the three alumni will portray their everyday work efforts toward sustainable development. They will focus on their local and personal levels. As young professionals previously trained on sustainable development this will be their opportunity to portray how they put in practice what they previously learned. One presentation will be from Macedonia on Local Environmental Action Plans. One will be from a fellow Kosovar architect on sustainable designs and one will be from a management consultant from BiH.
15:30 – 15:45	Break
	Local initiatives and European Integration: EURED Solutions?
	Shenoll Muharremi, EU Technical Assistance to Regional Development in Kosovo
15:45 – 16:30	In my presentation Shenoll Muharremi will elaborate on the development issues Kosovo is facing both at national and local levels. He will discuss resources available and how they are allocated as well as raise the following questions: Is it possible to accelerate Kosovo's development? Can EU Regional Economic Development (EURED) be the right tool leading local governments into developing a strategic and partnership based policy making and priority setting approach that can accelerate development? Support and involvement of the European Union and Local Governments into the EURED process will be highlighted.
	VIU Orientation
16:30 – 16:45	Selina Angelini, VIU
10.00	The participants will be provided with some logistic information about the structure of the Course, the scheduled activities and about San Servolo Campus.
	Wrap up
16:45 – 17:00	Elaine Wright, University of Pennsylvania
19:30	Welcome Dinner in Venice

Tuesday, November 9	
	Venice
	Venice International University
SUSTAINABLE D	EVELOPMENT PILLARS: ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ASPECTS
09:00 - 09:30	Clip – "Population Growth"
	Lecture: Top Ten Obstacles to Sustainability
	Candice Stevens , OECD
09:30 - 10:00	Despite greater understanding of how to advance on the three pillars of sustainable development (economic, environment, social), progress toward sustainability continues to be very slow. Among the main obstacles to sustainability are the lack of corporate responsibility, the lack of social and environmental consciousness in the mainstream media, the short-term vision of politicians, government corruption in both developed and developing countries, increasing income inequality and unemployment, unsustainable consumption patterns and inappropriate technologies, gender inequities, and the failings of the education system. Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) for present and future generations is the main means for overcoming these obstacles.
	Lecture: The Global Fairtrade System
10:00 - 10:45	Johnna Phillips, Fairtrade Labelling Organizations (FLO) International e.V.
	Johnna Phillips, Head of Market Development, will present the structure of FLO e.V and how Fairtrade is contributing to sustainable development in the Global South.
10:45 – 11:15	Coffee Break
11:15 – 11:45	Social Pillar – Group Exercise
11113	Candice Stevens & Johnna Phillips
11:45 – 12:30	Group Reports
	Candice Stevens & Johnna Phillips
12:30- 13:30	Lunch
13:30 - 14:30	Film — "Bhutan: Gross National Happiness"
14:30 – 14:45	Break
	Economic Pillar – Global Green Economy Initiative
	Nikolas Bertrand, United Nations Environment Program
14:45 – 15:30	The presentation will provide an update on the UNEP-led Green Economy Initiative. Launched in late 2008, the Initiative consists of several components whose collective overall objective is to provide a macroeconomic analysis of policy reforms and investments in green sectors and in greening brown sectors. The Initiative will assess how sectors – such as renewable energies, clean and efficient technologies, water services and sustainable agriculture – can contribute to economic growth, creation of decent jobs, social equity and poverty reduction, while addressing climate risk and other ecological challenges. The Green Economy Initiative includes three sets of activities: 1. Producing a Green Economy Report and related research materials, which will analyse the macroeconomic, sustainability and poverty reduction implications of green investment in a range of sectors from renewable energy to sustainable agriculture, and providing guidance on policies that can catalyse increased investment in these sectors. 2. Providing advisory services on ways to move towards a green economy in specific countries. 3. Engaging a wide range of research, non-governmental organizations, business and UN partners in implementing the Green Economy Initiative.

15:30 – 16:15	Economics Case Study Candice Stevens & Nikolas Bertrand
16:15 – 17:00	Economics Group Exercise Candice Stevens & Nikolas Bertrand

Wednesday, Nov	ember 10
	Venice
	Venice International University
SUSTAINABLE D	EVELOPMENT PILLARS: ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS; THE CASE STUDY OF VENICE
	Lecture: Implications of Environmental Protection Prof. Slobodan Milutinovic, University of Nis Environmental regulation stands accused of causing a broad array of undesirable economic consequences. If it is true, even partially true, some serious rethinking of environmental policy would seem to be in order. But if not, it might be helpful to explain, once and for all, why not. At the same time, we can see if some of these criticisms nonetheless still have something of significance to say about environmental policies. For example, do environmental regulations
09:00 - 09:45	impact on the competitiveness of firms? The question arises as to whether environmental regulation, based as it is on the polluter pays principle, places firms at a competitive disadvantage. Environmental policy requires that the firm redirects resources from other profitable opportunities which can lead to a rise in costs and prices and the loss of markets. There is an alternative view, however, and this is that environmental policy improves competitiveness by pushing firms into developing more efficient ways to produce and therefore reduces costs (Porter Hypothesis). Some would go so far as to argue that stringent environmental policy is a potent form of industrial policy, that it provides a double dividend whereby it both improves the environment and competitiveness. Moreover, is convergence in income per head and employment between richer and poorer likely to be compromised by environmental policies and the need for expenditure on environmental protection? This presentation will examine positive and negative implications of environmental policies on the output and employment of firms and how environmental compliance costs influence economic performances.
	Lecture: Environment: An Impediment to Growth?
	Prof. Slobodan Milutinovic, University of Nis
09:45 – 10:45	The purpose of this presentation and following debate is to question a notion which has become otherwise unquestionable in mainstream economics. It is the idea that a growing global economy is the only foundation for solving all economic problems and, in particular, for reducing poverty and save the environment. The severity of current environmental problems like climate change, which threatens the poorest most, is coupled with a rate of technological improvement that, from the perspective of environmental adequacy, is too slow. This appears to give rise to serious tension between the objectives of human development and poverty reduction on the one hand, and environmental sustainability on the other. But is this tension inevitable, or does the world view underlying it rest on false logic? This presentation will examine economic growth as main pillar of current worldviews and its limits and try to give an answer on classic question: is it economic growth sustainable. Particular attention will be drawn on USA and China examples. The presentation will try to open the pro- and anti-growth debate among participants and to foster green-growth thinking.
10:45 - 11:15	Coffee Break
	Lecture: Sustainable Development: Economic Paradigm and Challenges in the Venice Lagoon Case
11:15 - 12:15	Prof. Margherita Turvani, IUAV Sustainable development implies persistent economic growth combined with increasing and
	Sustainable development implies persistent economic growth combined with increasing and fairly distributed quality of life. The Brudtland Report (1987) defined sustainable development as a model of 'development meeting the needs of present generations without limiting opportunities of future generations'. There are three dimensions of sustainable development:

	the economic dimension, the social dimension (inequality), the environmental dimension. Experiences in policy making and theoretical arguments in these last 3 decades have shown that 'sustainability' requires both a dynamic vision of development based on win-win strategies and on a multidisciplinary and open approach and shared objectives and shared procedures of policy making and institutional management. We can talk of a fourth dimension of sustainable development, the institutional dimension to guarantee social cohesion, a common vision, and the capacity to develop shared solutions to the variety of problems and challenges facing the demand for environmental improvement, for less inequality, for improved quality of life for the present and for the future generations. Sustainability requires leaving to future generations a stock of capital providing the ability to reach a level of development similar to that achieved by former generations; we need a more balanced combination of capitals, combining man-made capital, natural capital, human capital, institutional capital. The presentation discusses these concepts and it applies them to the case of the Venice Lagoon. Venice and the Venice Lagoon offer an example of a complex challenge for sustainable development; it is an example of how natural systems usually cannot be defined without considering the role of man and where the "natural system" that we want to preserve now for current and future generations is a product of man actions and man decisions through history.
12:15 – 12:30	Q & A
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 14:30	Lecture: Sustainable Tourism Prof. Jan van der Borg, University of Venice The concept of 'Sustainability City' in the contemporary society is various and complex, moreover nowadays is becoming a sensible issue. The main points that caraterise a 'Sustainable City' are discussed and analysed with the aim of underlining the potentiality of each city in order to promote and foster a sustainable development.
14:30 - 15:30	Q & A
17:00 - 19:00	Guided Tour in Venice

Thursday, Novem	Thursday, November 11	
	Venice	
	Venice International University	
LOCAL PERSPECT	TIVES OF SUSTAINABILITY	
	Lecture: Local Policies and Governance	
	Kate Theobald, Sustainable Cities Research Institute - Northumbria University	
09:00 – 09:45	As we approach Rio plus 20 in 2012 it is an opportune time to reflect on the successes and barriers to implementation of sustainable development at the local level. Local governments across Europe have made significant progress in addressing the requirements of sustainable development, yet they continue to face challenges in delivering sustainability and monitoring outcomes. This series of 3 lectures will explore the local sustainability agenda in terms of the European context and will consider the tensions and synergies between local frameworks for sustainable development and strategies to respond to climate change. The lectures will illustrate the key issues in terms of governance, social and economic aspects, and monitoring sustainability through UK city examples. At the end of each lecture Kate Theobald will pose several questions to participants to facilitate discussion around the key issues.	
	The first lecture will discuss the key principles for governing sustainable development, as set out in the Aalborg Commitments and related frameworks. It will then consider what constitutes a 'Sustainable Community' using a UK definition, and explore how this is being implemented in the UK.	

	Lactural Local Economic and Social Aspects
	Lecture: Local Economic and Social Aspects Kate Theobald, Sustainable Cities Research Institute - Northumbria University
09:45 – 10:30	The second lecture focuses on the local economic and social aspects and considers opportunities for linking these dimensions at a local level through, for example 'greening' local economies and enhancing local employment. It will also explore the role of initiatives such as low-carbon neighbourhoods.
13:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break
	Lecture: Monitoring Sustainability and Indicators
	Kate Theobald, Sustainable Cities Research Institute - Northumbria University
11:00- 11:30	The third lecture will assess the challenges for monitoring implementation of sustainable development and will explore the role of indicators (European and national) in achieving this. It will discuss the benefits and limitations of indicators and targets for local governments, as identified recently by UK local governments, and look at the value of initiatives such as the UK Forum for the Future sustainability index.
	Small Group Exercise: Case Study – Local Actions
	Kate Theobald, Sustainable Cities Research Institute - Northumbria University
11:30- 12:30	The case study session will consist of a brief presentation on local action for sustainable development in the UK city of Newcastle upon Tyne (a local authority that I work closely with, Northumbria University being located there). It will then pose 3 key questions for the small groups to reflect upon, given their national contexts and local experience:
	 What is a local government meant to be in the 21st century and what is or should be its role in delivering sustainable development?
	 At what scale of a locality should sustainable development be implemented (eg local government-wide, area-based within the locality, neighbourhood level)?
	 What are the most effective mechanisms for changing citizens' behaviour to become more sustainable?
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch
	Lecture: Compliance and Enforcement for Sustainability
	Mihail Dimovski, The Regional Environmental Center
13:30 – 14:30	Over past decade, environmental law and policy development has been central to governmental efforts to achieve sustainable development. However, only having environmental laws and policies in place is not enough to achieve sustainable development. Sustainable development depends upon good governance, good governance depends upon the rule of law, and the rule of law depends upon effective compliance and enforcement. The lecture provides overview of the important principles in designing, implementing and evaluating effective environmental enforcement and compliance programmes. The REC has been actively contributing to the work of OECD and INECE in design and promotion the principles of environmental compliance and enforcement.
	Lecture: Local Plans of Action for Sustainability
	Dr. Radoje Lausevic, The Regional Environmental Center
14:30 – 15:30	Lecture present priority activities at local level for putting sustainable development into practice. Lecture describes Local Sustainability Cycle which leads local governments through 5 steps. By repeating those steps periodically local communities may gradually advance their level of sustainability, while at the same time making sure sustainability stays on the local agenda. Lecture is based on concrete examples of implemented priority activities (small scale investments of up to 50,000 EUR) in 5 municipalities. In discussion all activities will be distributed among three main pillars of sustainability (Social, Economic, and Environment).
15:30 – 16:00	Break

16:00 – 16:45	LEAPS – Small Group Exercise
	Srdjan Susic, The Regional Environmental Center
	Workshop presents examples of activities on the local level which are addressing all three pillars of sustainability. Workshop is based on projects implemented (or under implementation) by the Regional Environmental Center (REC).
16:45 – 17:00	Wrap up

Friday, November 11	
	Venice
	Venice International University
WASTE SUSTAINA	ABLE MANAGEMENT
	Lecture: Emerging Issues in Waste Management
09:00 - 10:15	Dr. Zoltán Illés, CEU, Member of the Parliament in Hungary
09.00 - 10.13	Prof. Illes will discuss the policy of the waste management going through its hot issues such as the industrial and hazardous waste, the illegal dumping and the different disposal methods. The case of Hungary will also be presented.
	Lecture: Inefficient or not Correctly Enforced? Municipal Solid Waste Management Policies and Problems in Naples
	Stefania Romano, IMELS, Italian Trust Fund
10:15 – 10:45	Waste management is gaining importance on today's decision-makers' agenda; the effectiveness of political actions on waste management affects directly the daily life of citizens, who are more and more sensitive to how waste plans are implemented and waste processes take place. In order to look into the whole process one single case will be depicted; the case of Naples which, in 2008, became infamous for its patent poor waste management. The study of this case will highlight the different phases of waste cycle, the involvement of different stakeholders, whether from the governmental - central and local – or the private sector, as well as the citizens themselves, and, last but not least, an examination of the legal framework regulating waste management. Leading topics of this research study will be the causes of such ecological disruption; the extent to which these are due to political negligence; and the solutions suggested for repairing the damage.
10:45 - 11:15	Coffee Break
	Priula: a Local Case Study
	Mattia Tassetto, Consorzio Priula
11:15 – 12:15	The aim of the lecture is to present an example of a successful urban waste management that, by promoting and developing the separate waste collection, was able to both reduce the waste produced and reach high level of recycling. The Consorzio Intercomunale Priula manages the entire cycle of urban waste produced by 24 municipalities in the Province of Treviso. It serves an area of 640,16 km2, and 237.000 people. The system used is characterised by a door-to-door collection and the punctual measurement tariff. This means that waste is collected from different bins that each family, firm or public entity is provided with. The tariff applied is measured on the effective production of waste, according to the "polluter-pays" principle. Besides the door-to-door method, 23 centres for separate collection offer different containers for bulk, electrical, electronic, hazardous waste and inerts. The system used allowed the achievement of a high percentage of separate collection (78% on average in 2008), a reduction of waste production per capita (from 440 kg/inhabitant*year in 2000 to 369 kg/inhabitant*year in 2008) and, in particular, of non recyclable waste (non recyclable dry waste went from 321 kg/inhabitant*year in 2000 down to 80,8 kg/inhabitant*year in 2008).
12:15 – 12:30	Discussion: Waste Management Policy and Practice

12:30 – 14:00	Buffet Lunch in 1H-1F
14:00	Departure for the Site Visit
	Site Visit: Integrated Waste Management in Venice – Veritas
	Francesca Faraon, Idecom
	The visit aim at presenting an effective example of waste management that integrates different systems.
14:30 – 17:00	The Veritas Integrated Waste Treatment Plant is located in Fusina, an industrial area near Venice, but away from residential areas. It is well connected to the main roads and has a pier to dock the barges coming from Venice. The integrated center includes a waste-to-energy plant, a refuse derived fuel (RDF) production plant for co-combustion with coal and an electric energy power plant.
17.30 - 17.00	Veritas S.p.A. – Veneziana Energia Risorse Idriche Territorio Ambiente Servizi – is the largest multi-utility in the Veneto Region for residents, serving in the sector of waste management and the integrated water cycle. This wholly-owned public company supplies to 29 municipalities and 700,000 residents (over 75% in the province of Venice and 15% in the Veneto), in addition to the more than 23 million tourists who visit Venice, Lido and the surrounding areas each year. Veritas provides integrated water and waste management cycle services and sells and distributes energy through its subsidiaries. It also provides urban, community, territorial and industrial services and handles the management of integrated cemetery and funerary services, wholesale markets and environmental reclamation work.

Saturday, November 13	
	Venice - Budapest
5:30	Departure from San Servolo
5:30 - 6:00	Transfer San Servolo - Piazzale Roma by boat
6:00 – 6:45	Transfer Piazzale Roma - Treviso Airport by bus
6:45	Arrival at Treviso Airport
8:20	Flight W6 230 Venezia - Budapest
9:35 – 11:00	Transfer Airport - Hotel Ramada by bus
11:00 - 19:30	Free Time
19:30	Dinner at Ramada Hotel

Sunday, November 14	
	Budapest
16:00 – 18:00	Optional: Budapest Sightseeing
19:00	Group Dinner in Buda

	Szentendre		
	Regional Environmental Center		
SUSTAINABILITY	SUSTAINABILITY IN PRACTICE		
08:00	Departure from the Hotel Lobby		
09:00 - 9:15	Welcome to Regional Environmental Center		
	Marta Szigeti Bonifert, Regional Environmental Center		
1	Resilience - Sustaining Development in an Increasingly Uncertain World		
]	Introduction		
	Dr. Janos Zlinszky, Senior Adviser - Regional Environmental Center		
	Andrea Deri , Senior Consultant- LEAD International		
9:15 – 10:15	In this one-day workshop, Ms. Deri and Dr. Zlinszky will introduce participants to the concept of 'resilience' of social-ecological systems, and provide opportunities to explore how a resilience approach can strengthen the implementation of sustainable development policies. Disaster bills compromise development funds: how can we prevent this? What characteristics make some communities recover faster and better after a shock while others do not make it at all? Why is it that we need to make changes even if we 'just want to maintain' certain conditions? What are the leverage points of necessary changes? Participants will be actively engaged to address these questions through computer simulations, analyzing case studies and making strategic regional development decisions based the conclusions of the most comprehensive regional resilience assessment available.		
1	The workshop is divided into three parts: (i) introduction to basic concepts, (ii) comparative analysis of policy principles and (iii) getting a taste of resilience assessment.		
10:15 – 10:30	Coffee Break		
ı	Resilience Case Study		
10:30 - 13:15	Dr. Janos Zlinszky, Senior Adviser - Regional Environmental Center		
	Andrea Deri , Senior Expert- LEAD International		
13:15 – 14:15 l	Lunch		
	Resilience Case Study – Discussion and Closure		
	Dr. Janos Zlinszky, Senior Adviser - Regional Environmental Center		
	Andrea Deri , Senior Expert- LEAD International		
	Lesson Learned & Wrap up		
	Selina Angelini & Elaine Wright, University		
17:00 – 17:30 F	Following the Expectations Session that took place in the first day participants' ideas and comments are analysed and discussed.		
19:30	Dinner at Ramada Hotel		

Monday, November 15 RUSSIAN DELEGATION		
		Szentendre – Budapest
	Region	nal Environmental Center
SUSTAINABILITY IN PRACTICE		
08:00	Departure from the Hotel Lobby	
09:00 – 9:15	Welcome to Regional Environmental Center Marta Szigeti Bonifert, Regional Environmental Center	
9:15 – 13:00	Study Trip: Waste to Energy Plant Otto Szabo - Regional Environmental Center	
13:00- 14:30	Lunch	
14:30 – 17:00	Study Trip: Landfill Otto Szabo - Regional Environmental Center	
19:30	Dinner at Ramada Hotel	

Tuesday, November 16		
	Budapest - Szentendre	
	Parliament Building - Regional Environmental Center	
SUSTAINABILITY IN PRACTICE		
9:15	Departure from the Hotel Lobby	
10:00 – 12:00	Study Trip: Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	
	Dr. Zoltán Illés, CEU, Member of the Parliament in Hungary	
12:00 – 12:30	Environmental Legislation: Problems and Solutions Prof. Ivan Sobol In the presentation was given by the definition of environmental legislation as a structurally ordered set of sources of law are among themselves in a stable relationship. Comparative characteristics of environmental legislation of the European Union and the Russian Federation (the types and main features of the sources of environmental law, the fields of public relations, which are regulated by the environmental law of the European Union and the Russian Federation). A comparison of the problems of formation of environmental legislation of the European Union and the Russian Federation, its practical application is made. The differences and similarities between the main ways of development of environmental legislation of the European Union and the Russian Federation. Noted the need for harmonization of environmental legislation of the Russian Federation with the European Union's environmental laws and regulations of international law. The lecture will be held in the form of a conversation, it is expected to identify and discuss the views of listeners.	
12:30 - 13:00	Transfer to Restaurant	

13:00 - 14:00	Lunch in Budapest
14:00 – 14:30	Transfer to Organica Headquarters
14:30 - 15:30	Presentation from Organica
15:30 – 16:00	Transfer to Telki Plant
16:00 – 17:00	Visit at Telki Plant
17:00 – 18:30	Transfer to Szentendre
18:30	Certificate Ceremony Dinner with Members of the Board of Directors of the REC

Saturday, November 17	
	Budapest
	DEPARTURE