About the Conference

In 2008 the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management – in cooperation with SERI – Sustainable Europe Research Institute – started a process dealing with the question, which kind of growth is compatible with sustainable development. The Initiative “Growth in Transition” constantly tries to involve as many institutions and persons as possible in a dialogue, how we can frame a process of transition towards sustainability.

More about the Austrian process: http://www.growthintransition.eu

An initiative in Finland followed the example of Austria, also using the brand Growth in Transition (http://tinyurl.com/m5ylbr5).

In January 2014 there was an international conference in Brussels “International Stakeholder Dialogue Growth in Transition – Sustainable Economic and Social Concepts” with participants from eight countries. A main objective of this event was to encourage institutions in other member states to start similar processes and possibly to establish the brand “Growth in Transition” in such cases too. Finally a network using this brand could come into being.

The City of Dubrovnik, represented by Mrs. Andrea Novakovic, Head of Dubrovnik Development Agency, participated in the conference in Brussels after which it was decided that a similar event should also take place in Dubrovnik, Croatia. While the focus of the Brussels conference was broader one, the Dubrovnik event has the goal of presenting and discussing local development initiatives which would fit into the “Growth in Transition formula”.

Topics would tackle issues such as present and future development, challenges for cities and examples of successful local projects and networks in that field.

The conference will also encompass contributions and presentations from local level of other EU and non – EU member states, such as Austria, Germany, Italy, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro and from international organizations.

PROGRAMME
PROGRAMME OCT. 3rd

09:00 - 09:30  Registration of participants
09:30 - 10:00  Welcome and opening speeches by hosts
   Mr. Željko Raguž
   DEPUTY MAYOR OF DUBROVNIK
   Mrs. Andrea Novaković
   HEAD OF DUBROVNIK DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
10:00 - 10:30  “Growth in Transition” Initiative – European model for development showing the way in practice
   Mrs. Martina Schuster
   AUSTRIAN MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
10:30 - 11:00  Dubrovnik and its present and future development challenges - example of the local community’s growth in transition
   Mrs. Jelena Lončarić
   HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF DUBROVNIK
11:00 - 11:30  Coffee break
11:30 - 11:50  How to create space for change? Local governments and transition initiatives
   Mrs. Ania Rok
   ICLEI - LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR SUSTAINABILITY
11:50 - 12:10  Bottom-up: A way of European Parliament acting and reacting on local sustainability projects
   Mrs. Dubravka Šuica
   CROATIAN MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, ENVI MEMBER
12:10 - 12:40  The Global Transition Movement - Supporting Community Action
   Mr. Rob Hopkins
   TRANSITION NETWORK, FOUNDER (VIA VIDEOSTREAM)
   Mr. Friedrich Hinterberger
   SERI, VIENNA, AUSTRIA
12:40 - 13:00  Plenary Discussion
13:00 - 14:00  Networking at the buffet lunch
14:00 - 14:20  Initiatives and experiences of Italy on green growth
   Mr. Pierluigi Manzione
   ITALIAN MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, SENIOR POLICY ADVISOR
14:20 - 14:40  Being part of the European network for more than a year - examples of what can the Ministry bring to the local level
   Mrs. Branka Pivčević Novak
   CROATIAN MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, HEAD OF SERVICE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
14:40 - 16:10  Panel Discussion: Choosing between sustainability and business as usual - is there a room for balance?
   MODERATOR: MR. MARK THOMAS
   Mrs. Vesna Bukarica
   FZOEJ, CROATIA
   Mr. Ivan Jurilj
   REDAH, BIH
   Mr. Željko Turk
   PRESIDENT OF CROATIAN TOWNS ASSOCIATION
   Mr. Friedrich Hinterberger
   SERI, VIENNA, AUSTRIA
16:10 - 16:30  Conclusions and Outlook
   Mrs. Andrea Novaković
   HEAD OF DUBROVNIK DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
16:30 - 17:30  Get Together and Drinks