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22 Years of Green Economics and The Green Economics Institute

A REPORT BY EMMA MARIA ROSSI FOR THE 22ND ANNUAL GREEN
ECONOMICS INSTITUTE'S CONFERENCE, OXFORD, 31 JULY - 1 AUGUST
2026

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Green Economics Institute

www.greeneconomicsinstitute.org.uk
greenecommerceinstitute@yahoo.com

22 Years of Green Economics and The Green Economics Institute

AUTHOR: EMMA MARIA ROSSI:

A YOUNG PERSON'S VOICE IN SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS AND POLICY AT WU VIENNA. HER BROADER INTEREST IS IN WHAT A SUSTAINABLE AND SOCIALLY JUST ALTERNATIVE TO GROWTH-BASED ECONOMICS WOULD LOOK LIKE.

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EMMA MARIA ROSSI – EMMAMARIAROSSEI7@GMAIL.COM

ORCID:[HTTPS://ORCID.ORG/0009-0002-1185-7125](https://orcid.org/0009-0002-1185-7125)

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Two decades of impact, influence and success



Source: greeneconomicsinstitutetrust.org/home/about/history/; greeneconomicsinstitutetrust.org/charity-info/

2003–2009 · Founding & Early Years

- 2003** Green Economics Institute founded by Miriam Kennet, with Volker Heinemann as co-founder.
- 2004** International Journal of Green Economics launched.
- 2009** Institute Trust registered as a charity; first UN delegation, COP15 Copenhagen.

2010–2019 · Growth & Global Reach

- 2018** GEI Books passes 100 titles in print; network reaches ~20,000 people.

2020–2026 · Renewal & Anniversary

- 2021** Delegation of ~100 people to COP26, Glasgow.
- 2024** Journal gains Scopus accreditation; 20th Anniversary events in Reading and at the House of Lords.
- 2026** 22nd Annual Conference, Oxford — the occasion for this report.

Source: greeneconomicsinstitutetrust.org/home/about/history/; geiclimate.org

Who We Are

GEI was founded in 2003 as an international institute to develop ideas and philosophy for social, environmental, and economic justice worldwide: for a green economy, green jobs, and green careers. Our mission is to promote ecological, social, and economic justice; to reform mainstream economics toward sustainability and inclusion; and to reconstruct an economy that serves people, nature, and the planet.

Where We are

GGEI holds official RINGO (Research and Independent Non-Governmental Organisation) status at the United Nations UNFCCC and has sent significant and impactful delegations to, and run official side events and an official exhibition stand at, UN climate conferences regularly since COP15 in 2009, including Paris, Glasgow, Sharm El-Sheikh, Dubai, Baku and Belém, as well as attending IPBES biodiversity conferences. GEI is a founding member of the European Network of Political Foundations (ENOP) and the Green European Foundation (GEF) in Brussels, and is active at the University of Oxford through college and departmental ties. Its journal has been credited by the Bank of England as dealing with one of the healthiest areas of the economics discipline (2012), and the Institute has provided training to UK government bodies including the Cabinet Office and HM Treasury (2011), and has spoken in the Austrian Parliament (2009), the French Senate (2009), the Scottish Parliament (2011, 2013, 2015) and the Estonian Parliament (2010). GEI's official delegation to COP30 in Belém, Brazil, took place in November 2025, with an exhibition stand, an official side event and a climate networking hub. It also takes part in Finance for Development and climate finance events.

Source: greeneconomicsinstitutetrust.org/home/about/history/; GEI Annual Report 2025, p. 13 ("Who We Are: The Green Economics Institute")

UN Delegation Sizes

people sent as part official GEI Delegations to UN Climate Conferences



Conference & Delegation Highlights

Anniversary milestones

The Institute marked its 20th anniversary at the House of Lords, Palace of Westminster, on 31 October 2024 (sponsored by Baroness Natalie Bennett), followed by a 21st-anniversary celebratory conference at the Friends Meeting House, Oxford, 23-26 October 2025. The 22nd Annual Conference is scheduled for the Blavatnik School of Government, part of the University of Oxford and the Friends Meeting House Oxford venues, 31 July-1 August 2026, marking the occasion of this report.

Academic conference themes (selected, chronological)

- 13th Annual GEI Conference, Oxford, June 2018 - 'A 2 Tonnes of Carbon Economy: The Beginning of Civilisation or the End?', with an associated Research Day and 3-day Summer School.
- Migration and Mobility Conference, Kellogg College, University of Oxford, run jointly with the Green European Foundation.
- Social Justice Conference and Being a Trustee Training Conference, both at Trinity College, University of Oxford.
- Green Hub Conference – explaining 'how the COP works' – drew around 4,000 attendees.
- Survival strategies and nurturing nature on line conference attracted 1000 participants. (2022)
- Climate Feminist Summer School (3-day, online), August 2022, run with the Green European Foundation.
- 22nd Annual Conference, Oxford, 31 July-1 August 2026, themed 'Inspiration, Innovation, Implementation: Social, Environmental and Economic Justice', featuring several keynote speakers including Councillor Jenny Pattinson, Baroness Natalie Bennett, Gill Haggerty, Rt Craig Simmons MBE former Mayor of Oxford, and Rt Lijiana Popovska former MEP as keynote speakers and many others.
- Summer School at the HB Allen Centre, Part of Keble College University of Oxford will take place 24th-28th August 2026
- There will be two more delegations to the United Nations in 2026- COP17 Biodiversity in Armenia in October and COP31 in Yerevan Armenia in November

Journal rankings and listings

Beyond the Scopus accreditation already noted in this report, the Institute's own academic-research page lists the International Journal of Green Economics as appearing in the Australian Business Deans Council (ABDC) Journal Rankings List, Cabell's Directory of Publishing Opportunities, the Handelsblatt Ranking (Volkswirtschaftslehre), the Norwegian Register for Scientific Journals, Series and Publishers, and Italy's National Agency for Evaluation of the University and Research System (ANVUR). The journal and related Institute writing are also indexed or catalogued via RePEc/IDEAS, EconBiz, and ResearchGate.

Source: Green Economics Institute, 'Past Conferences at The Green Economics Institute', GEI Conferences, <https://geiconferences.org/past-conferences-at-the-green-economics-institute/> (accessed 14 July 2026); <https://geiconferences.org/events-at-gei-2026/> and <https://geiconferences.org/product-category/past-gei-conferences/gei-conferences-and-events-2024/>.

Awards & Institutional Affiliations

Awards and honours

- The runner-up in the **Green Gown Awards**, for **Excellence in Teaching**
- Miriam Kennet was the recipient of '**100 Most Powerful Unseen Women in the World**' list for its green business and gender-equality work. Honour presented by One World Action (announced by ITN's Jon Snow)
- The Honour Award for **Green Business from the Government of Luxembourg**.

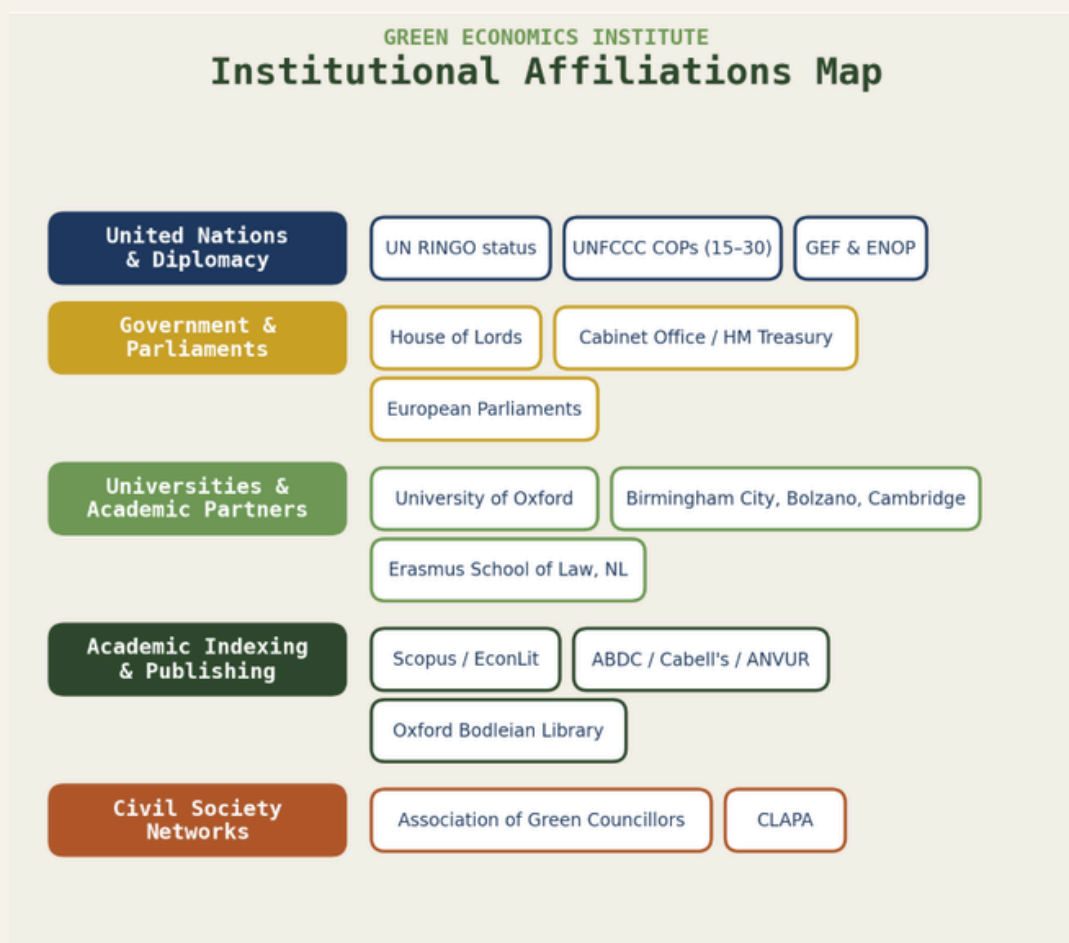
Institutional affiliations

Beyond its founding role in the Green European Foundation and the European Network of Political Foundations (ENOP) already noted in this report, the further institutional ties are:

- The Association of Green Councillors
- The Alumni Committee of Mansfield College, University of Oxford, the Environmental Change Institute at the University of Oxford
- CLAPA (the Cleft Lip and Palate Association).

The Institute is a 'Global Think Tank' with the largest global network of green-economics experts, and as an official RINGO (Research and Independent NGO) at the United Nations Climate Convention, as well as a an additional formal listing as an NGO of the UN in the UN NGO yearbook.

Source: Green Economics Institute, 'About', <https://greeneconomicsinstitute.org.uk/about-the-green-economics-institute/> (accessed 14 July 2026).



Sources: Green Economics Institute Trust, 'History'; Green Economics Institute, 'About' and 'Academic & Research' (accessed 14 July 2026).

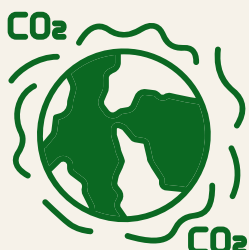
RESEARCH PRIORITIES



Green Economy & Diplomacy: green deals, green recovery, digitalisation and the green industrial revolution



Justice & Inclusion: social justice, just transition, diversity, women's empowerment. Kennet (2007) argued that environmental and social justice are interdependent rather than substitutable goals: being an environmentalist without also addressing social justice would not achieve the Institute's aims, since the two are ultimately bound together.



Environment & Survival: biodiversity, environmental justice, survival solutions, climate action. Kennet (2007) frames the discipline's urgency in terms of a wide-ranging audit of ecological and economic risk (polar ice loss, sea-level rise, biodiversity decline, and the Stern Review's growth projections),



Governance: law, ethics, and trade. The editorial situates the Institute within a specific intellectual lineage, surveying the spectrum of green political positions – from market-based and regulatory approaches to ecological modernisation and radical green rationalism – and positions Green Economics within the more radical, rationalist end of that spectrum, while drawing on feminist influences as well.

The Green Economics Institute aims to reform economics to eliminate poverty at its source, prevent mass extinction, support human survival, stop rapid climate change, and foster a society based on social and environmental justice, equality, and inclusion. It aims to position economics within a long-term, planet-wide, holistic view of reality, treating the economy as embedded in nature rather than treating nature as a resource to be managed around business.

Source: Kennet, M. and Heinemann, V. (2006) 'Green Economics: setting the scene. Aims, context, and philosophical underpinning of the distinctive new solutions offered by Green Economics', Int. J. Green Economics, Vol. 1, Nos. 1/2, pp.68-102.

Kennet, M. (2007) 'Editorial: progress in Green Economics: ontology, concepts and philosophy. Civilisation and the lost factor of reality in social and environmental justice', Int. J. Green Economics, Vol. 1, Nos. 3/4, pp.225-249.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Named research projects & academic partnerships

- Rural-urban fringe planning research, with Birmingham City University – published as '*Disintegrated development at the rural-urban fringe: re-connecting spatial planning theory and practice*', examining the governance gap between urban and rural planning policy at city edges.
- Contribution to Prosperity Without Growth, a UK government-linked report on post-growth economic policy
- International Journal of Green Economics – the Institute's own long-running, double-blind peer-reviewed research output, indexed on Scopus, EconLit, Google Scholar and ProQuest, and treated by the Institute as its flagship, continuous research project rather than a one-off study.
- GEI Books research programme – over 100 titles in print spanning academic, policy and general-audience research; the Oxford University Bodleian Library is cited as holding more than 140 of the Institute's published articles, books and other writing.
- Teaching-linked research placements – lecturing and Erasmus-linked exchanges feeding into research supervision at the University of Oxford, University of Bolzano, University of Cambridge, University of Alicante, and the Erasmus School of Law in the Netherlands.

Source: Green Economics Institute, 'Academic & Research', <https://greeneconomicsinstitute.org.uk/academic-research/> (accessed 14 July 2026).

Current thematic research

- Economics
- Women's Leadership
- Health and Well-Being
- Digitalisation and Innovation in the Contemporary Economy
- Biodiversity
- Social Justice
- Climate Action
- Law, Institutions and Ethics
- Environmental Justice
- Survival Solutions
- Green Deals, Green Economy and Diplomacy
- Democracy, Power and the State

These twelve areas function as the Institute's standing research and policy departments.

From Founding Themes to Impact

Founding Theme	Founding Statement	Evidence of impact
Justice for people, species & planet	<i>The Institute's first objective, per Kennet (2007), is to build economic conditions that deliver social and environmental justice for people everywhere, non-human species, and the planet's systems.</i>	Social Justice Conference, Trinity College, Oxford; Migration and Mobility Conference (with the Green European Foundation), Kellogg College, Oxford; the 2021 Climate Feminist Summer School; UN RINGO status and IPBES biodiversity conferences extending this justice lens to non-human species and the planet.
Reforming Economics	<i>Kennet's second objective (2007) calls for reforming mainstream economics into a fairer, more equitable discipline that makes room for marginalised perspectives, including feminist theory.</i>	Integration of eco-feminism and heterodox intersectional economics alternatives, through conferences and academic courses. Instances are the Women's Leadership research department; the 2021 Climate Feminist Summer School
Creation of a new discipline	<i>Kennet's third objective (2007) goes further still: founding an entirely new discipline that gives everyone, everywhere, equal power and equal access to economic decision-making.</i>	Publishing and support of new researches through the GEI Journal. Master's/PhD programmes since 2012; summer schools and GEI Academy training '1000s of students'; teaching partnerships at Oxford, Cambridge, Bolzano, Alicante and Erasmus School of Law. In addition, it provides internships opportunities to a diverse range of students.
Economy embedded in nature	<i>Kennet and Heinemann (2006) call for situating economics within a long-term, planetary, holistic view of reality, with the economy understood as embedded in nature rather than nature treated as a resource managed around business.</i>	The institute pushes this goal by being a member of the Green European Foundation and European Network of Political Foundations; their continuous COP delegations; the Environment & Survival research priority; Association of Green Councillors affiliation.

Contributor Voices and Testimonies

To fully grasp the impact the institute had over the years, this research gathers first-hand testimony from those who have shaped the Institute over the past two decades.

This section is drawn from an audio transcript of Miriam Kennet, founder of the Green Economics Institute, gave at a House of Lords anniversary event. Kennet's speech underlines the **uniqueness of the institute**. She exposes this through a sequence of stories rather than a mission statement, giving this report a nuance not captured before.

A family, not an institution

Kennet described the Institute's culture as deliberately loose: people 'hop on and off', leaving to raise families or pursue other work, then returning – which she credited with the continuity and 'family feeling' that has kept the network special across two decades. She spoke of alumni scattered through the room at the anniversary event itself, many unaware of how much they'd shaped the Institute's direction over the years.

A track record of being early

Kennet recalled launching the concept of the **green economy** at UNEP, and warning early on of a sixth mass extinction of species at a time when, she said, the claim was widely dismissed. She framed the Institute's willingness to say unpopular things early – and be proven right later – as part of its character. In addition, Several anecdotes illustrated a reach well beyond what a small institute might be expected to have. In 2009, at the invitation of Enrico Tezza, Kennet lectured to the regional government in Bolzano, Italy, on how climate change was affecting the hydro-power system in a region responsible for a large share of Italy's water supply. She described lecturing at Venice International University to heads of environmental-sustainability bodies from ex-Iron Curtain Balkan states.

One story stood out: during a British Council-funded summer school for young people from Egypt, Italy, and England, Kennet and colleagues later discovered that several Egyptian families had sent their children to the programme specifically to keep them safe while their parents led a coup unfolding at home in 2013 – something the Institute learned only afterward. She offered it as an example of how the Institute has, without always realising it at the time, found itself intersecting with real geopolitical events.

Kennet described founding the International Journal of Green Economics somewhat by chance. She was approached after giving a talk during her PhD at Nottingham and asked if she'd like to start a journal, and chose to fuse 'green' (earth sciences) with 'economics' (social science), to put social and environmental justice at the centre of economic thinking. An economics professor she invited onto the founding board declined, telling her the journal would not last more than three months. However, the Institute is still running after 22 years. But what really inspired her to start the institute was the drive to pursue an equal redistribution. Having witnessed instances of deep poverty and inequality, Kennet felt the urge to find genuine fair distribution built in structurally "from the beginning," rather than sticking plaster or redistribution, rather than as charity as an afterthought.

Outsized influence at the UN

Kennet described the Institute's UN delegations as consistently oversubscribed, and recalled that the then UN Secretary-General's climate leader, told her at the Paris Climate Conference that the Institute's delegation was the only one that truly understood the climate problem and what to do about it. She also recounted being approached to head a UN climate department, and described the Institute's recent registration as an official UN NGO and RINGO (research NGO), alongside its expansion into biodiversity work through IPBES.

In her own words

Kennet closed by returning to how she defines the field itself: 'green economics, reclaiming economics for all people everywhere, nature, the planet and its systems'.

Source: Kennet, M., address at the House of Lords anniversary event (31 October), audio transcript shared directly by the report's commissioning editor.

This section presents a contribution from **Baroness Natalie Bennett of Manor Castle**, a Member of the House of Lords and previous Leader of the Green Party of England and Wales.

Bennett's connection to the Institute goes back more than twenty years, when she spoke at an Oxford event and had a paper she wrote on sex work published by Kennet: a concrete example, from an outside contributor, of the journal publishing work on subjects mainstream economics venues would be unlikely to touch. She also described attending numerous UN climate conferences (COPs) together with Kennet, starting with COP22 in Marrakesh in 2016 through to more recent years.

'We have to do the thinking'

To underline why the Institute is so important, Bennett described attending an event that same morning on Tufton Street, London, for the launch of a UK well-being report, which found well-being in the UK to be poor, particularly for those at the bottom of the economic scale. The question raised there, after twenty years of advocacy work, was what to do next; the answer, in her telling, was to keep going, as political change happens in sudden jumps rather than gradually. She used that defines the Institute's own role in a single phrase: 'we have to do the thinking' – doing the intellectual groundwork, she suggested, for a shift in political common sense that may take decades to fully land.

As evidence that this kind of groundwork pays off over time, she pointed to how mainstream climate discussion has become and noted that terms like 'doughnut economics' and 'planetary boundaries' are now entering everyday discourse.

Source: Bennett, N. (Baroness Bennett of Manor Castle), address at the House of Lords anniversary event (31 October), audio transcript of Bianca Madison - Vuleta's recording, shared directly by the report's commissioning editor.

This section presents a contribution from Chit Chong, one of the Institute's longest-standing members. His remarks are notably continuous with his own published contribution to the journal: he co-guest-edited a special issue on intergenerational equity for the International Journal of Green Economics, and authored 'Restoring the Rights of Future Generations' (2006) in the journal's founding volume. His speech gives a direct example of continuity between the journal's earliest content and a member's thinking today.

Chong framed the Institute's core value as giving people a place to challenge unquestioned economic assumptions, what he called its 'sacred cows.' He singled out the treatment of environmental harm as a mere 'externality' in conventional economics, arguing this framing is simply wrong: costs dismissed as external have real, tangible consequences if left unaddressed.

His central theme was that economic rights discourse, as it forgets the rights of future generations. He raised limited liability companies as a second 'sacred cow': when a company such as Shell folds or leaves stranded assets (such as disused oil wells) behind, he argued, it is future generations and other species who are left to bear the resulting costs, while the company itself walks away from the debt.

Chong described his own career as an attempt to put these ideas into practice: over twenty years in social housing, a sector he linked to roughly a quarter of carbon emissions, and more recently a move into agriculture. He closed by framing all of this as a matter of justice owed simultaneously to people living today, to future generations, and to other species. Justice that, he argued, companies are currently able to walk away from.

Source: Chong, C., remarks at the House of Lords anniversary event (31 October), audio transcript shared directly by the report's commissioning editor.

This section presents a contribution from **Dr Ehtesham Abbasi**, Faculty of the Green Economics Institute, Reading, UK – drawn from a speech he delivered in the House of Lords, London, at an event marking the Institute's recent anniversary.

He described two decades of academic and research conferences run by the Institute across the UK and internationally, fostering dialogue among scholars, policymakers and communities committed to greener futures, pointing ahead to the following year's conference in Oxford, on the theme "Visioning the Future We Want."

He also highlighted the Institute's delegations to UN climate conference (the COPs), and the International Journal of Green Economics, which he noted is indexed across major academic databases, including Scopus, EconLit, Google Scholar, and ProQuest, among others. He also pointed to the Institute's publishing house, which has produced hundreds of books, and to its summer schools, courses and professional training as central to its education mission.

Dr Abbasi spoke personally about his own path through the Institute: attending its 2017 summer school, gaining admission to the University of Oxford in 2019, and securing a tenure-track position at Al Akhawayn University in Morocco by 2022. He credited the Institute not only with these career milestones but with instilling values of compassion and social responsibility. He closed by urging peers in the House of Lords to support and engage with the Institute's work toward an economic system that honours the planet and its communities.

Source: Speech delivered by Dr Ehtesham Abbasi to the House of Lords, London, shared directly with the report team by Dr Abbasi.

This section presents a contribution from **Steven Marcellino**, based in the UK and Indonesia, who was given an award by King Charles as being one of the most influential company directors in the UK. He described his connection to the Institute as dating back around twelve years, to an early convention in Indonesia – among the Institute's first Southeast Asian links. The Institute partnered at a conference in London for Indonesian students, where Kennet was keynote speaker, and then produced a book and a special issue of the academic journal featuring sustainability in Indonesia. Taking part were the Ambassador and the Educational Attache.

Marcellino framed his contribution around a single narrative he is advancing: a green economy for all, aiming at a just and sustainable world powered by high-integrity carbon markets. He presented this explicitly as a way of ensuring carbon markets serve equity as well as emissions reduction.

He argued that global sustainable investment reached a peak of around \$595 billion in the past year, but that only about 15% of it reached emerging markets and developing economies, the majority instead going to already-developed markets. He framed this **imbalance** as both economically shortsighted and unjust, and positioned his own work, and by extension the Institute's Southeast Asian partnerships, as a corrective aimed at **redirecting climate finance from the Global North toward the Global South**, including Latin America, Africa, and Southeast Asia.

He closed by listing a run of near-term engagements that illustrate the partnership is active: a session with the Indonesian Ambassador on 6 November; an Indonesia-hosted presence at COP29 in Baku; an Indonesia Investment Forum; and a second ASEAN forum in Jakarta.

Source: Marcellino, S., remarks at the House of Lords anniversary event (31 October), audio transcript shared directly by the report's commissioning editor.

This section presents a contribution from Steven Muggeridge, Director of the Green Gathering, a long-running UK festival for alternative-lifestyle and green-activist communities, .

Muggeridge said the first Green Gatherings predate the emergence of the Green Movement as such, and suggested they may even have helped inspire it. He described the gathering's purpose as deliberately beyond entertainment: a gathering of alternative-lifestyle people and green activists that keeps ancient craft skills alive alongside ongoing experimentation with new renewable energy technology. He described one of the gathering's roles as bringing together both legislators and grassroots direct-action activists. This led him into an account of the gathering's history with Climate Camp, the direct-action group that targeted UK coal power stations in the late 2000s.

He framed the organisation as resilient as in recent years has moved from suppression to being actively courted. Now it is receiving funding from the Arts Council and the Welsh Government, and invited to events it would once have been excluded from. He attributed the shift partly to a change in the gathering's own tactics toward more engagement, and partly to wider social change over the fifteen years since. He also mentioned international interest, including from a music industry event in Canada and possible influence on North American green festivals.

Addressing a common criticism – that festivals generate unnecessary environmental impact – he said the gathering had commissioned research from A Greener Festival, a real sustainability-research organisation for festivals. The finding, as he summarised it, was that attendees staying home instead would not meaningfully reduce their carbon footprint, since domestic consumption over the same period produces a broadly comparable impact. He offered this as evidence that the gathering is not simply an entertainment event with a resource cost, but one that shapes attendees' lifestyles more broadly. The Green Economics Institute's Directors always held an exhibition stand at the gathering in the early days and many of its first members came from that event. It continues to support the gathering whenever it can and is very grateful.

Source: Muggeridge, S., remarks at the House of Lords anniversary event (31 October), audio transcript shared directly by the report's commissioning editor.

This section presents a contribution from Enrico Tezza, a senior member of the Green Economics Institute, drawn from two manuscripts shared by him.

On Industrial Relations and the Platform Economy

Tezza described the structural decline of twentieth-century industrial relations, tracing it to the rise of precarious and platform-based employment, neoliberal restructuring, falling union density, and automation. He argued that the platform economy has introduced a further, more specific challenge: algorithmic management and platforms' refusal to assume employer status, he said, actively weaken conventional bargaining and union organising.

He pointed to emergent, experimental forms of collective representation now working to fill this gap, citing the German Crowdsourcing Association's multi-employer agreements and IG Metall's efforts to secure voluntary wage commitments from platform operators. He closed by proposing what he calls a 'polycentric social contract' built on five interlocking pacts covering security, democracy, work, consumption, and sustainability – which he framed as a deliberate move beyond the traditional capital-labour antagonism toward a cooperative, multi-stakeholder model. This contribution underlines and reinforces the GEI role on advocating for social and human rights and the developing of an alternative socio-ecological economics.

Source: Tezza, E., 'Reimagining Industrial Relations in Post-Industrial Society: Challenges and Opportunities in the Platform Economy,' manuscript shared directly with the report team.

On Green Economics as a Sustainability Paradigm

Tezza argued that mainstream sustainable development remains functionally tied to individualistic utility-maximisation and perpetual-growth assumptions, and put forward Green Economics as the theoretical alternative – built, he said, on a 'Homo reciprocans' model of cooperative, rather than purely self-interested, economic behaviour.

Notably, he traced Green Economics' theoretical expansion, directly from Kennet and Heinemann's 2006 framework of three normative pillars – social justice, ecological integrity, and eudaimonia. This was also building on Molly Scott Cato and Miriam Kennet's late-1990s foundational scholarship, in a book they co edited called *Green Economics Beyond Supply and Demand to Meeting Peoples Needs*, 1998, which arose out of an economics conference run by Kennet in Reading. He closed by introducing what he calls the 'participatory paradigm': a relational model of economic identity, drawing on Remotti's concept of the 'Condividuo' (co-individual) and One Health thinking, which he offered as an alternative to the atomised individual of orthodox economics.

Source: Tezza, E., 'Green Economics as a Paradigm for 21st Century Sustainability,' manuscript shared directly with the report team.

A keynote from a founding feminist economist

In October 2005, the Institute hosted a keynote lecture by Maria Mies, one of the founding figures of feminist political economy and author of *Patriarchy and Accumulation on a World Scale: Women in the International Division of Labour* (1986). The lecture was published two years later in the *International Journal of Green Economics*.

Mies used the lecture to revisit and update her original thesis, describing the world economy as an iceberg in which visible, protected wage labour sits above the waterline while the unpaid work of women, subsistence producers, informal-sector workers, and nature itself forms the much larger, invisible base that sustains capital accumulation.

Miriam Kennet, founder of the Institute, described Mies's contribution as one of many of the diverse and wonderful founding building blocks of Green Economics thinking, crediting her with joining development critique, international trade structure, and feminist theory into a single rigorous analysis, a rare combination among alternative economists of the period.

Sources: Mies, M. (2007) 'Patriarchy and accumulation on a world scale - revisited (Keynote lecture at the Green Economics Institute, Reading, 29 October 2005)', *Int. J. Green Economics*, Vol. 1, Nos. 3/4, pp.268-275; Kennet, M. (2007) 'Editorial: progress in Green Economics', *Int. J. Green Economics*, Vol. 1, Nos. 3/4, pp.225-249, at p.241.



Conclusion

Across two decades, the Green Economics Institute has built a network of academic, diplomatic, and experts with a shared passion: contributing positively towards a sustainable and equitable future. This conclusion tries to summarise the Institute's impact.

The Institute helped to spread the message that a suitable alternative was possible since 2004. It made education on green and social justice accessible through its International Journal of Green Economics, conferences and academic courses. The former has run continuously since 2004, is Scopus-accredited, and is indexed across RePEc, EconLit, and Google Scholar, among others. GEI Books has produced over 100 titles and the Institute has run summer schools and GEI Academy training that have reached thousands of students.

The Institute holds official RINGO and UN NGO status, and has sent delegations regularly to UN climate conference from COP15 (2009) alongside a growing role in IPBES biodiversity conferences. It has trained UK government bodies, had its journal subject credited by the Bank of England as one of the healthiest areas of the economics discipline, and GEI contributed to the UK's Prosperity Without Growth report.

Perhaps least tangible, but most distinctive: the Institute has operated continuously for twenty-two years, an unusually long run for an organisation of its kind, sustained by a network of diverse members who leave and return across life stages rather than a fixed staff. That network reaches from elite policy settings into grassroots ones, proving the Institute's big and impactful reach. The Institute's story and influence demonstrates that an intersectional, interdisciplinary, collaborative and suitable alternative is possible.

Re-igniting hope for humanity

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Oxford Summer School, August 2026

*To be held at:
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Emma Maria Rossi – emmamariarossi7@gmail.com ORCID:[https://](https://orcid.org/0009-0002-1185-7125)

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