founded in 2004

RE-IGNITING HOPE

SUSTAINABILITY SUMMER SCHOOL PAPERS

Economic, Social and Environmental Justice

_24th-28th August 2026 OXFORD

Held at the HB Allen Centre, part of Keble College, University of Oxford

GEI GREEN ECONOMICS INSTITUTE

info@greeneconomicsinstitute.org.uk
www.greeneconomicsinstitute.org.uk

Citation:

Kennet M. and Datt. R.Eds, (2026). 22nd Annual Green Economics Institute Summer School Information Pack. Published by the Green Economics Institute. Reading, UK: Green Economics Institute.

Introducing The Green Economics Institute

Founded in 2004, we are proudly celebrating 22 years of creating a global non governmental and non standard network of intelligent and caring voices for social, environmental and economics justice, reform of mainstream economics and creating a multidisciplinary academic narrative of Green Economics.
We are passionately advocating and working tirelessly to raise awareness, educate, mitigate and roll back the tide of runaway climate change, reverse biodiversity and habitat loss, and create an economy which is beneficial for all people in the world, especially women, minorities, and other species, nature, the planet and its systems.

An economy of growth as in nature- that means nature flourishing, not using corporate politics as an excuse to destroy natural habitats, or perpetuate wars in the name of progress.

Instead of mainstream one dimensional narratives of growth, which are causing untold suffering and destruction -
we are working for a flourishing world for everyone and everything on the planet -a world in which we can be proud of our human influence!

We are grateful to all our supporters, members and collaborators all across the globe.

Thank you so much for your well wishing for our 22th anniversary and looking forward to another 22 years at this crucial time in human history.

Bianca Madison- Vuleta Trustee & Vice President

Our Key Founding Values

1. To provision for the needs all people everywhere, other species, nature, the planet and its systems, all as beneficiaries of economics transactions, not as one-off inputs.

2. To reinforce an underpinning of social and environmental justice, tolerance and no prejudice and creating quality of life for everyone, including current and all future generations, and regardless of age.

3. To ensure the recognition and respect of other species' rights. To end the current mass extinction of species and ensure the survival of Earth's biodiversity.

4. To create an economic system which advances non-violence and the inclusion of all people everywhere, regardless of special needs or special ability. To ensure that all nations have equal access to power and resources on a finite planet, and that local people to have control over their own destiny and resources. To eradicate poverty, increase life expectancy, human welfare and real well-being in the least developed countries.

5. To guarantee gender equity in all activities, educating, respecting, empowering women and minorities, and ensuring that all people valued and respected equally.

6. To end high mass consumption and the current overshoot of Earth's resources, returning human civilisation to the comfortable bounds of nature in its original climatic conditions. To choose lifestyle change over techno-fixes and eco-technology, lowering individual carbon usage, living lightly on the earth.

7. Changing how economics is done: from being an abstract mathematical exercise to embracing the real world we all live in, recognizing that we are all concerned as stakeholders.

8. Climate change prevention, adaptation, mitigation. Protecting the most vulnerable from risk. Ensuring the future of small island states. Quickly reducing carbon per capita globally to 2 tonnes in the next 5 years and zero soon after. Limiting and reversing climate change. Moving to renewable energy sources.

9. Future-proofing economics to increase its suitability for the 21st century, solving the current economic downturn and widespread uncertainty. Creating and nurturing an economy based on sharing, rather than greed and profit. Completely reshaping and reforming economics to do all the above.

GEI Team 2010

GREEN ECONOMICS INSTITUTE DELEGATION AMBITION FOR COP26

WE HAVE 10 YEARS TO SAVE THE CLIMATE AND TO CHANGE TO A MATRIFOCAL, DIVERSE, INCLUSIVE SPECIES OR RISK OUR OWN EXTINCTION.

EQUITY IS THE PRICE OF SURVIVAL.

1. ALL NDCS TO BE ALIGNED WITH 1.5C
2. KEEP GLOBAL HEATING TO 1.5C
3. TO AGREE, FINALISE & IMPLEMENT LOSS AND DAMAGE FULLY
4. TO AGREE & FINALISE ALL ASPECTS OF THE PARIS RULEBOOK
5. AGREE THAT CLIMATE JUSTICE MUST MEAN SOCIAL JUSTICE
6. AGREE A NEW CLAUSE THAT ACTUAL RENEWABLES BECOME DOMINANT SOURCES BY 2025
7. PHASE OUT ALL FOSSIL FUELS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
8. SHIFT TO SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE & FOOD PRODUCTION
9. POLLUTER PAYS: CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY

All enquiries: info@greeneconomicsinstitutetrust.org & greeneconomicsinstitute@yahoo.com
Visit our websites: www.greeneconomicsinstitute.org.uk & www.geiclimate.org

DIRECTORS

MIRIAM KENNET

Miriam Kennet is the founder and Director of the Green Economics Institute, and founder and Editor of the International Journal of Green Economics, having researched at Oxford University, Oxford Brookes, South Bank
and is a member of Mansfield College, Oxford University. She designed and lectures on the Environmental Economics Course at Birkbeck College, London University and also teaches Environmental Policy there. She is author of around 35 articles, detailed on the Green Economics Institute's website and co editor of a book, Green Economics Beyond Supply and Demand to Meeting People's Needs and is creating a series with Gower Management Books on Green Economics and Sustainable Growth at the moment. Forthcoming book contributions include one book published in Berlin on Socio ecological transformations with the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, and one book with Professor Jack Reardon on teaching Economics in the USA.

BIANCA MADISON-VULETA

Bianca Madison-Vuleta has studied a variety of natural and complementary medical approaches with many of the world's leading experts, including Lifestyle Medicine training at Harvard Medical School, USA. She has a private practice in London & Oxfordshire, in collaboration with an Integrative Physician. Bianca was recently awarded a PhD hc (honoris causa) from AUGP, US. She specialises in preventative healthcare, life optimisation coaching, neuroscience coaching, mind-body health strategies, anti-ageing medicine, emotional health, stress and weight management, wellness and fitness coaching, menopause, as well as corporate wellness. Bianca also has an extensive training and experience in green, ecological and sustainable living. She is involved the work of numerous NGOs with dedication to promote more conscious, holistic and sustainable lifestyles and overall
planetary health.

ANJIKWI MSHELBWALA

Anjikwi Mshelbwala specialises in IT and the role of Green Economics and its benefits and implementation for development, gender, health and education for women and girls. He is also a specialist in Aid and IT as well as bringing knowledge of Green Economics for Development as it is needed and is evolving in several parts of Africa. A senior person in Action Aid Charity in Africa, we are delighted to have him on board as a Trustee. He is currently working with a major aid agency helping to solve and prevent the problems of Covid 19 in Nigeria. He then went on to pursue his passion working in the NGO; VSO and later to ActionAid, deploying and adapting ICT4D (ICT for development), Green ICT, designing and deploying computer centers for excluded communities and left behind rural areas in developing countries. Also trained by Harvard on Problem Definition by Iterative Adaptation and applies it to solving difficult problems around the developing countries especially on bridging the digital divide.

FOUNDER OF OUR CHARITY

Judith Felton is Founder of our Charity, and was our first Manager and Database Manager of the Green Economics Institute, Founder of the Green Economics Institute Trust, and also the Health and Safety Officer. She ran all our early conferences and welcomed our students. She is qualified in many areas of health management from OT, Reflexology, Alternative Medicine at the University of Exeter.

REGISTERED TRUSTEES OF THE GREEN ECONOMICS INSTITUTE TRUST (OUR REGISTERED CHARITY)

FOUNDING DIRECTORS OF THE GREEN ECONOMICS INSTITUTE

Miriam Kennet and Volker Heinemann

visiting the European Central Bank

GEI GREEN ECONOMICS INSTITUTE

FOUNDING DIRECTORS OF THE GREEN ECONOMICS INSTITUTE

Miriam Kennet and Volker Heinemann

Volker Heinemann 1968-2021

Volker a Green Economics Institute Founder and Director as well as Deputy Editor of the International Journal of Green Economics. He studied economics at Kiel, Goettingen, and Nottingham Universities. He was a Professional Chartered Accountant and an Auditor and was with Price Waterhouse Coopers and Grant Thornton. His research interests included international trade, development economics, macroeconomics and monetary economics. A talented writer, lecturer and manager and with a keen interest in IT. Volker has been a Die Grunnen Councillor in Germany and the International Coordinator for the Greens on their national Executive. He was a founding member of the ENOP and GEF foundations in Brussels.

He was the author of Economy of the Future, Oekonomie Der Zukunft. Volker ran the Green Economics Institute, with Miriam Kennet, from its inception for 17 years until his sad untimely passing away during the pandemic. We miss him greatly.

FOUNDING DIRECTORS OF THE GREEN ECONOMICS INSTITUTE

Early Director Michelle Suzanne Gale de Oliveira

Michelle studied at the Political Science and International Relations Departments at Richmond, the American International University in London and has lived between London, Chicago, and the remote interior of Brazil and rural Paraguay. She is on the board of the Green Economics Institute, UK, and was for many years the deputy-editor for the International Journal of Green Economics, particularly its Women's Issue (Vol.3 Issue 2) and its Pre-Copenhagen Climate Change Special Issue (Vol.3 Issues 3/4), and was editor of the Green Economics Institute's members' magazine, The Green Economist.

Her writing has been featured in Europe's World, one of the foremost European policy magazines. She lectures and speaks on Environmental and Social Justice, Gender Equity, and International Development from a Green Economics perspective. She is founder and chair of the Gender Equity Forum.

She organised Green Economics Institute conferences on women's unequal pay and poverty in Reading, UK, and lectured on green economics in Berlin, Germany, at retreats in Glastonbury, UK, and is a regular speaker at international conferences. She set up and organised our first delegation to the United Nations Climate Conferences (COPs). She researched women's unequal pay and poverty, specifically with regard to land reform in Brazil. She became the anchor woman on Al Jazhera TV and was reporting on Capitol Hill during the riots. Michelle now runs a rural small holding in Paraguay and Bolivia

What is Green Economics? A new discipline

Volker Heinemann

Green Economics is a new academic discipline that is based on the innovations in society that started to emerge in the 1960s and attempted to replace the consensus based on traditional values and aims for society that existed at that time. The 'Green' agenda developed into a new set of thinking similarly to the conservative, liberal and social democratic/socialist traditions already existing.

The ecological issues raised are part of a wider set of concerns, values and aims for society, the environmental issues, and follow from this core a request for change in attitude similarly to the emergence of other movements like peace, feminism, social justice and human rights economic development. These new ideas were combined to a new holistic strategy based on the unifying concern for a new consensus for society beyond conservatism.

Over the past 30 years this new set of thinking has matured and comprises a wide variety of issues and disciplines. Green Economics is a newly founded discipline within academic economics that is systematically assessing problems and questions in that original spirit. These new ideas have a defined set of basic principles that are particularly important as far as economics as a key social science is concerned.

Green Economics is influenced by its historic roots concerned with the problem that existing structures are defined or seen as value free and objective whereas they are in fact a particular value or ideology based concept that just happened to be the starting point for the development of the society.

A strong belief in the benefits of evolution of society renders this new discipline truly innovative and it works to replace the existing ideologies and conventions with a wider set of options. It does so by accepting that ultimately a value free social science is not possible but in accepting this fact the discipline is therefore less normatively biased than conventional economic thinking which bases its claim to be value free because it is predicated on maintenance of the status quo and reflects majority thinking. Furthermore, all innovations in society were once in a minority position.

The outcome of such conservative thinking is a strong normative bias in economics towards explanations and concepts that have no longer any future. As a consequence of this awareness of normative influences Green Economics is set up in the most holistic way possible. Discoveries from other sciences are actively incorporated into the own work to really make sense of the complex phenomenon called society. This stands in sharp contrast to the reductionist and overly quantitative mathematics and assumptions on which conventional mainstream research is based.

Conventional economics creates an artificial world of how things could optimally be, based on the values it inherently includes. Green Economics tries as an alternative to incorporate a wider set of potential behaviour and allows for systems and institutions to be designed so that this degree of freedom is maintained and rather than a particular set of rules accepted as unavoidable. Along this way the language, methodology and terms used are reassessed. Freedom, optimal, growth and justice are all terms that have a surprisingly intentional use in conventional economics. Terms like competition, are used as if competition itself is freedom, something that is desirable, where in fact competition only occurs when people cannot achieve their entire goal simultaneously. Green Economics gives people back the sovereignty over their decisions and life rather than pushing the language used, not to mention the methodology, into areas where an objective assessment of the matter considered is no longer possible.

Green Economics is practically focused and deals with all economically relevant phenomena of the modern society. Significant findings from other areas of science like for example the awareness of absolute limits to resource use are comprehensively incorporated in the approach taken, rather than a continuous attempt to rescue as much from conventional methodology and definitions as possible.

There are some similarities between Green Economics and Ecological Economics. But Ecological Economics remains primarily focused on the environment and Green Economics is much wider including social and environmental justice at the core. This is the basis for calling Green Economics a new and independent discipline from all other existing economic disciplines so far.

As it appears to be the case that the original spirit of the new value set, that gave rise to the wider green movement and finally to Green Economics, is as relevant as ever considering current issues that require addressing, it is of prime importance that this new discipline is developed further in the near future to balance the views and opinions publicised that are based on conventional thinking. It is of particular concern, as conventional economic thinking is always surrounded by scarcity up to the point that scarcity is actively promoted. This is in order to maintain a reality that can be explained within the existing framework and concepts. People are advised how to behave accordingly, so that with such outdated methods the current economic challenges will not be met. It should be emphasised that Green Economics is as a consequence not only developing an alternative view to economic issues that might or might not be normatively desired depending on the viewpoint. The research develops the tools and methods that are required to master today's economic problems in society. This is because conventional economics evolved in the nineteenth century in a different set of circumstances and was designed and is still designed to meet those previous needs and is unable to solve the problems of today. Green Economics is truly the future of economics not just a niche addition to the discourse.

Setting the Scene: Introduction to approaches to economics. Green Economics Principles

Miriam Kennet 2006

Green Economics methodology also brings perspectives to conventional economics tools, in terms of both time and space. This new context enables it to reveal, disentangle, and unravel the power relationships and vested interests in the new global marketplace. The logic of Green Economics advocates local production for local needs, and reusing, reducing, repairing and possibly recycling, rather than global expansion of corporations. Thus, wisdom and holism are re-introduced into economic problem solving. It also re-incorporates political economy and the moral and transformational aspects of the economics of Smith (1776), while offering new solutions to 'managing the commons', which has been often restricted to game theoretical models (von Neumann and Morgenstern), and exercises based on the prisoner's dilemma or voting issues (Arrow,1951).

Attitudes to nature are completely revised. According to Goldsmith (2005), economics needs to keep within nature's carrying capacity and at the moment many of its systems are being so overloaded with the impacts of human economic activity that cannot continue. It is time to 'Rewrite Economics' (Goldsmith, 2005) for the benefit of humans and the natural world and to accept the boundaries imposed by the earth. This new rationality and wisdom leads to an economics of increasing abundance as produced in nature, rather than an economics of scarcity.
The most pressing current problems are grouped into four main categories, with the advantages of the Green Economics approach explained. They are ecological/economical, intellectual, political and moral.

Inadequate markets, corruption and crime. Non-beneficial trades: arms, prostitution, drugs Regional and locally diverse and democratic solutions
Using analysis of power relations and institutions (Veblen, Foucault, Gramsci)
Feminist analysis of patriarchy and accumulation. (Mies, Mellor, Kuiper, Salleh)
Critique of trickle down theories. Wealth creation locally with local power and decisions. Priority given to ending poverty and enabling equity rather than through same patterns of industrialisation and development or conventional growth.
Reform of global institutions to reflect specific local conditions, requirements and individual choices by people and communities. Social and environmental justice (Lord, Sen) Poverty as unfreedom. Reform of aims of economy, continued inequality problems with human happiness directly addressed.

Table 1. Economics distinctive methodology and basic concepts

Problem/Issue	Green Economics methodology	Green Economics unique insights
1. Ecological/Economic Resources of the planet being annihilated, (Goldsmith) carrying capacity of the earth compromised (Georgescu Rogen) Species extinction (Boswimmer, Wilson)	Limits to growth (Meadows) Ecology and Nature (Goldsmith) Emphasis on appropriate size or scale of production (Schumacher) Manage over-consumption downwards. Reuse, reduce, recycle, repair. Transparency of supply chain. Population issues (Malthus, Ehrlich)	Change in behaviour, appropriate consumption (Brown, World Watch Institute). Focus on education and value of all people. Needs, right and equity met for all people. Access to economic opportunities and choice. Diversity of economic policies. Lack of dogma and domination by structures, ideologies and institutions. Growth equals abundance as in nature. Sees people and biosphere as beneficiaries not inputs Inclusive of people, planet, biosphere
2. Intellectual Discipline of mainstream economics seen as out of touch with reality, (Kitson, Medena and Samuels) Inability to act on climate change, selection of nuclear power over renewables, industrialisation of the food chain (GMO)	Reformulation of supply, demand and growth Long termism Holism Economics embeddied in nature New relationship to science/natural sciences and technology Specificity in examination of issues temporally and spatially	Broader philosophical base Enlightenment (Rousseau, Diderot, Locke, Voltaire) Critical theory (Habermas, Marcuse, Adorno, Horkheimer) Post modernism (Derrida, Soja, Salleh, Kriestevas) Management of commons (Hardin, Lord) New mix of needs, rights, well-being and happiness (Neef) Social and environmental justice Equity (Albert), democracy, participation (Robertson, Rawls, Harrisson, Chong, Alderson) New attitudes to economics as part of nature Techno fixes inappropriate Uses planet wide scope and real world setting and complexity for research and observations.

Table 1. Green Economics distinctive methodology and basic concepts (continued)

Problem/Issue	Green Economics methodology	Green Economics unique insights
3. Political Undemocratic, nontransparent power of multinationals, global institutional power, weak local economies One-half of all work not valued or included in GDP	Progress in the economy measured by new indicators, well-being, quality of life, sustainability, long termism etc., examination of power structures Reform/replace of global institutions to provide global governance.	Deconstructing power relationships Increased role of regional/local economies, communities, access Inclusive approach Intergenerational equity Re-embeds the economy in nature and the social system No longer axis of worker versus owner
4. Moral Problem of world poverty (1.3bn out of 6.3bn global population in extreme poverty) (Sachs) Inadequate markets, corruption and crime. Non-beneficial trades: arms, prostitution, drugs	Regional and locally diverse and democratic solutions Using analysis of power relations and institutions (Veblen, Foucault, Gramsci) Feminist analysis of patriarchy and accumulation. (Mies, Mellor, Kuiper, Salleh) Critique of trickle down theories. Wealth creation locally with local power and decisions.	Priority given to ending poverty and enabling equity rather than through same patterns of industrialisation and development or conventional growth. Reform of global institutions to reflect specific local conditions, requirements and individual choices by people and communities. Social and environmental justice (Lord, Sen) Poverty as unfreedom. Reform of aims of economy, continued inequality problems with human happiness directly addressed.

Table 2. Sister Disciplines

Neo liberal		**Radical/ participation/ Anti-materialism**	**Holistic (Bloom), Green / New philosophy**
Environmental	**Social**		Subsistence economy (Mies)
Environmental economics (Pearce)		Post autistic (Galbraith, Heilbroner)	Ecosocialism (Kovel)
	Development economics	Anti-Development (Shiva)	Buddhist economics (Schuhmacher)
	Welfare economics (Sen, Pigou)	Trade Justice movement	Deep Ecology (Naess)
	Stakeholder theory (Freeman)	Anti- globalisation (Gramsci)	Industrial ecology (Korhonen)
Sustainable development (Brundtland)		Feminist (Mellor, Mies)	Ecofeminism (Shiva)
Corporate social responsibility		Socially responsible investment (SRI)	Ecological economics (Daly, Boulding)
		Parecon (Albert)	Love economy (Henderson)

Overview

Emma Rossi and Miriam Kennet 2026

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.

GEI

REGULAR INSTITUTE MEMBERSHIP

GEI GREEN ECONOMICS INSTITUTE

Emma Maria Rossi – emmamariarossi7@gmail.com ORCID:https://orcid.org/0009-0002-1185-7125
The Green Economics Institute,
A Not for Profit Company
Limited by Guarantee
Company No. 5258112
00447990590463
info@greeneconomicsinstitute.org.uk
www.greeneconomicsinstitute.org.uk
www.geiconferences.org
www.geiclimate.org
www.geimembership.org
www.geiacademy.org
www.greeneconomicsinstituteeducation.org
geitv vimeo
geibooks.org.uk


2 Day Conference with Garden Party in Oxford.
31st July -1st August 2026
22nd Annual Green Economics Institute Summer Conference Celebrations
Tickets and registration and further information
www.geiconferences.org and
info@greeneconomicsinstitute.org.uk
Reigniting Hope for Everyone Together

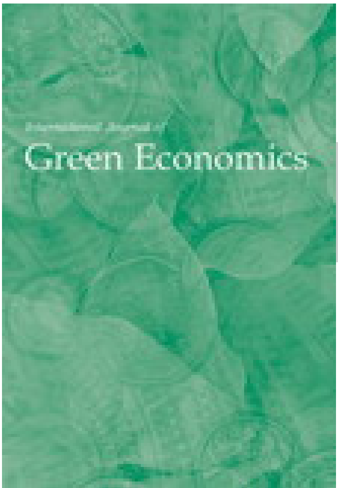

GEI GREEN ECONOMICS INSTITUTE
SUSTAINABILITY, GREEN JOBS AND GREEN CAREERS
WINDOW TO THE FUTURE
SUMMER SCHOOL
AUGUST 24TH -28TH 2026
TO BE HELD IN OXFORD
With our holistic approach to education,and global network, we strive to create an environment where students not only excel academically but also grow into compassionate, confident, and well-rounded individuals.
Opportunities
oxford experience
diplomacy, green ideas & economics
accredited module
climate, biodiversity
publishing
green economics and climate finance
REGISTER NOW
info@greeneconomicsinstitute.org.uk
www.greeneconomicsinstitute.org.uk
00447990590463

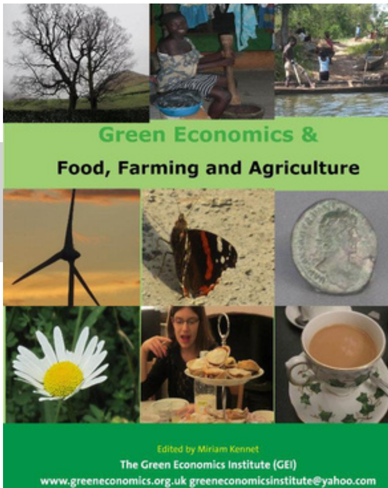
WORLD'S LEADING GREEN ACADEMIC JOURNAL

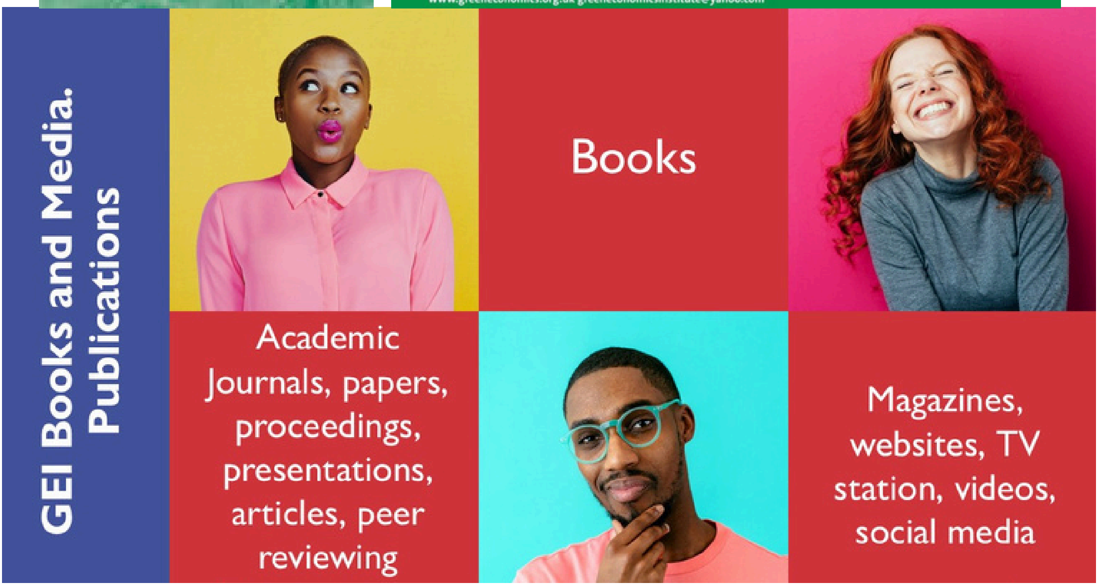
INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF GREEN ECONOMICS

NOW REGISTERED WITH SCOPUS AND MANY OTHER TOP ACADEMIC REGISTRIES

GEI BOOKS PUBLISHING HOUSE
WWW.GEIBOOKS.ORG.UK







The Green Economics Institute

The Green Economics Institute,
A Not for Profit Company
Limited by Guarantee
Company No. 5258112
00447990590463
info@greeneconomicsinstitute.org.uk
www.greeneconomicsinstitute.org.uk

www.geiconferences.org
www.geiclimate.org
www.geimembership.org
www.geiacademy.org
www.greeneconomicsinstituteeducation.org
geitv vimeo
geibooks.org.uk

We thank you for your continued support