

Beyond GDP: Measuring Just and Green Transitions for Resilient and Inclusive Economic Growth

/3-4 November, Sarajevo/

Monday, 3 November 2025

Venue: University of Sarajevo (UNSA), Rectorate main hall

14:00-14:30 Opening and Welcome Speeches

Tarik Zaimović, Rector, University of Sarajevo (UNSA)

Amer Kapetanović, Secretary General, Regional Cooperation Council (RCC)

Alan Kinder, Chief Executive, Regional Studies Association (RSA)

14:30-15:00 Keynote Speech

Lorenzo Fioramonti, Professor, Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences/
Director, Surrey Institute for Sustainability, University of Surrey

15:00-16:30 Panel Discussion

Vjekoslav Domljan, Rector, Sarajevo School of Science and Technology

Péter Benczúr, Scientific Officer, Economic and Financial Resilience Unit, Joint
Research Centre, European Commission

Andy Pike, Professor, Newcastle University

Alena Myshko, Research Fellow, Gran Sasso Science Institute

Moderator: Danijela Gačević, Head of Program Department, RCC

16:30-17:00 Closing Remarks

Umut Ergezer, Deputy Secretary General, RCC

Marijana Sumpor, RSA

19:00-22:00 Dinner and networking

Venue: S One Sky Lounge, Hotel Marriott

Tuesday, 4 November 2025

Venue: Hotel Movenpick

09:00-10:45 Parallel Academic Sessions – presentation of the selected papers

Banja Luka Halls - 1,2,3

Session 1: “Regional Development and Policy Innovation for (Measuring) Inclusive Growth”

Andy Pike, Newcastle University, UK – *“Navigating alternative approaches to local and regional development and policy”*

David An, University of Florence, Italy – *“Exploring Multiregional Co-evolution: A New Multispatial Integrated Assessment Model for Italy”*

Don Webber, University of Sheffield, UK – *“Rethinking productivity: more on the crucial role of demand”*

Alena Myshko, Gran Sasso Science Institute, Italy – *“Stakeholder Engagement in Co-Creating Sustainability and Resilience Metrics”*

Moderator: Ulpiana Lama, Expert on Human Capital Development, RCC

Session 2: “Alternative Inclusive Metrics, Local Realities: Tracking Progress Beyond GDP”

Joana Costa, University of Porto, Portugal – *“Digital governance and local resilience: a quantitative appraisal in Portuguese municipalities”*

William Bartlett, London School of Economics, UK – *“Inclusive growth models in South East Europe: Measurement and analysis”*

Aša Rogelj, Ministry of Natural Resources and Spatial Planning, Slovenia & **Ljiljana Madjar**, Regional Development Agency of the Ljubljana Urban Region, Slovenia – *“Quality of Life as an Alternative to GDP: A Comparative Analysis of Development Strategies in the City of Ljubljana and its Urban Region”*

Sanjin Čengić, Regional Cooperation Council, Bosnia and Herzegovina – *Measuring the Unmeasured: The Role of Informal Economies in Inclusive Economic Measurement in the Western Balkans*

Moderator: Jovana Popova Paunović, SEE2030 Strategy Assistant, RCC

Session 3: “Measuring Progress Beyond GDP: Well-being, Green Transition and Social Progress”

Ana Milinković, University of Belgrade, Serbia – *“Labour exposure to the green transition: Evidence from the selected Western Balkans”*

Sebastian Ritter & Vincente Royuela, University of Barcelona, Spain – *“Measuring the Green Transition in Europe: A Multidimensional Index for European NUTS2 Regions”*

Nermin Oruc, Centre for Development Evaluation and Social Science Research, Bosnia and Herzegovina – *“Social Progress-Adjusted Measure of GDP for the Western Balkans”*

Martijn Burger, Erasmus University Rotterdam & Open University of the Netherlands, The Netherlands – *“Using Subjective Well-being to Track Human Progress”*

Moderator: Fatmir Curri, Senior Expert on M&R, RCC

10:45-11:00 *Refreshment break*

11:00-11:15 **Briefing from Day 1**

Sarajevo Hall

RCC and RSA

11:15-12:30 **JRC science-for-policy session “Sustainable pathways and smart specialisation in the context of the EU enlargement region”**

Presentations:

“S3 in the Western Balkans as a place-sensitive response to competitiveness drivers”

“STI for SDGs: Evolving methodologies from enlargement economies pilots to challenge-led research and innovation strategies”

“Green transitions, sustainable development and S3 in the Western Balkans”

Speakers:

Emanuele Fabbri, JRC, European Commission

Angela Sarcina, JRC, European Commission

Nikola Radovanović, international expert (TBC)

Moderator: Manuel Palazuelos Martinez, JRC, European Commission

12:30-12:40 *Refreshment break*

12:40-14:10 **Measuring Inclusive Growth**

Presentation of South East Europe Inclusive Growth Index (SEE IGI)

Monika Petrova, Senior Political Advisor, RCC

Cornelia-Mădălina Şuta, Head of European and Global Economy & Social Policy,
Cambridge Econometrics / Leader of Consultancy Team Developing SEE IGI for
RCC

Discussants: Péter Benczúr, JRC

Ralf Peters, Head of Trade Analysis Branch, Division on International
Trade and Commodities, UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Graham Randles, Consultant, European Office for Investment for
Health and Development, World Health Organization (WHO)

14:10-15:10 *Lunch Break*

15:10-16:10 **Conference Final Reflections, Open Discussion and Conference Closure**

Umut Ergezer, Deputy Secretary General, RCC

Alan Kinder, Chief Executive, Regional Studies Association (RSA)