

## Call for papers - Session (S4-1) Organising alternatives to drive transition



Les transitions écologiques  
en transactions et actions

The economist Boulding wrote that "...in the course of the next century [...] mankind will face a fundamental transition into [...] a small, closed, limited, planetary society, almost certainly dependent on solar energy [...], and it will have to recycle [...] all its materials into a circular economy [and] we cannot afford to have population growth, organized violence, wars, revolutions..."(Boulding, 1972, p.22-23). He pointed out that our society does not consider the limits of the planet it inhabits, implying "moral, political, psychological adjustments," especially by economists (Boulding, 1966). Today, 50 years later, despite many debates, societal change is far from being achieved (Savy et al., 2019) as supported by abundant contemporary literature on organizational transition: "We must radically rethink the very foundations of our coexistence and the trajectories of activity and work "(Arnsperger and Bourg, 2017) or, "... the inevitable conclusion is that there is still a significant gap between the practice of currently dominant linear value chains and the prospect of implementing a circular organization (Jonker & Stegeman, 2016, p.42).

Conventional organizational theories can be questioned about their relevance for managing complexity (Avenier, 1993; Hamel, 2008; Fallery, 2016, Lorino, 2018; Brunsson, 2018). More recently, Brunsson (2015) demonstrates the incompatibility between the logic of sustainability of an organization and an individual. The first is driven by the rationale to achieve success guided by pre-determined business-success objectives, while the latter is driven by a social sustainability logic supported by a sustainable planet.

In the face of these observations, a growing body of scholars and practitioners seek to understand how transition on different levels and from various perspectives could be organized. Some conceptual publications call for reconsidering the role of (alternative) experiments. That is particularly the case when focusing on transition management (Geels, 2004; Geels and Schot 2007). This approach highlights the role of so-called 'niches' not operating under the constraints of a dominant institutional regime. These niches enable to experiment with the reconfiguration of the prevailing system allowing the development of radical and alternative innovations. The central assumption here is that these innovations, in turn, will gradually integrate the regime, transforming it from within.

In a similar vein the work of Arnsperger and Bourg (2017), identifies three domains of the economy in which transition should take place: "green capitalism," solidarity and social economy (SSE) and radical alternative. Transitions in these domains must necessarily converge towards an ecological footprint globally equal to one. As they state (2017, p.110): "SSE organizations and alternative experimentation collectives," must be supported in particular for their fundamental capacity to enable radical innovation."

Against this theoretical and conceptual back-drop the sub-session S4-1- "Organising alternatives to drive transition," aims at better understanding how the collective action of transition (Martinet and Pesqueux, 2013) takes place and drives towards a sustainable society, considering the limits of the planet. In particular, this session will focus on alternative modes of organizing enabling transition.

Expected contributions can consist of studies of radical experiments of organizing transition in companies, communities, associations, alternative organizations, etc. Experiences brought to the fore can illustrate the Why and How of chosen approaches given a specific context. In turn, they enable to question conventional theoretical and methodological frameworks and propose other, more relevant, frameworks to align with the empirical reality

### Calendrier :

- **Septembre 2019**  
Lancement des appels à communication,
- **20 janvier 2020**  
Date limite de soumission
- **Février 2020**  
Réponses aux auteurs (exposés, posters)
- **Octobre 2019 à Mai 2020**  
Inscriptions en ligne
- **du 22 au 26 juin 2020**  
Colloque à Toulouse

## Guidelines for communication proposals (format and submission):

- The proposals for this session are to be sent by email to [acsavy@posteo.net](mailto:acsavy@posteo.net), [kessari@iamm.fr](mailto:kessari@iamm.fr), [camille.dumat@ensat.fr](mailto:camille.dumat@ensat.fr), before January 20, 2020, with the subject "Proposition T2020".

- The review will be done by the scientific committee composed of Dr. Consales JN.; PR Yengue JL.; Dr. Busca D.; PR Jonker J.; PR Bourg D..

- Proposals must comply with the following instructions: corps Times New Roman, font size 12, single-spaced, 2.5 cm margins. They include a title in bold italic (Times New Roman, 14), mention the au-thor(s) with footnotes their position and institutional affiliation, provide five keywords. Proposals have a word count of a maximum of 600 words (including references). You can indicate the nature of your contribution: oral communication or Poster session.

## The information on the Conference

(presentation, calls for papers, registration, etc.) is available on the website:

**<https://transitions2020.sciencesconf.org>**

Students in PhD and Master 2 are invited to register on the conference website  
(free registration subject to availability)



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