



INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE at

21st IRDO International Conference
INNOVATIVE, SUSTAINABLE & SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE SOCIETY 2026:

Sustainability Management in Organisations

16th–17th June 2026, Slovenia, EU, online and onsite,

[https://www.irdo.si/en/irdo-conference/
conference@irdo.si](https://www.irdo.si/en/irdo-conference/conference@irdo.si)



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Dates: 16 - 17 June 2026, IRDO International Conference 2026

Conference venue: online & onsite from Maribor, Slovenia (Faculty for Business & Economics, University of Maribor, Slovenia)

Official language: English

Organiser info:

IRDO – Institute for the Development of Social Responsibility
Cesta 13. julija 65 a, SI-1261 Ljubljana – Dobrunje, Slovenia, EU

Web: www.irdo.si; E-mail: conference@irdo.si;

Phone: +386 (0)31 344 883




Slovenia, June 2026



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SHORT INTRODUCTION TO THE CONFERENCE

 **Short Briefing & Invitation:** 21st IRDO International Conference INNOVATIVE, SUSTAINABLE & SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE SOCIETY 2026

- **Event:** 21st IRDO International Conference
- **Theme:** Sustainability Management in Organisations
- **Timeline:** 16–17 June 2026 (Live in Maribor, Slovenia + Global Virtual Broadcast)
- **Target Audience:** C-Suite, ESG Directors, Risk Officers, Legal Counsel, Scientists
- **Action Required:** Registration of Participants is open via info@irdo.si
- **Additional information:** www.irdo.si

Dear Business Leader/Participant,

As the European regulatory landscape changes rapidly, companies are facing unprecedented pressure to deliver audit-ready environmental, social, and governance metrics. Moving past abstract pledges is now a matter of fiduciary duty and market survival.

We invite you to secure your corporate pass for the **21st IRDO International Conference**. This is a focused, two-day masterclass on operationalizing ESG to build enterprise value, organized in partnership with **IRDO – Institute for the Development of Social Responsibility, the University of Maribor, and the Slovenian Society for Systems Research** and many other organizations from Slovenia and abroad.

Custom Tracks: What's in it for your Role?

- **For CSOs & Sustainability Managers:** Master double materiality and map your exact path to European Sustainability Reporting Standards (**ESRS**) compliance.
- **For CFOs & Financial Controllers:** Learn to integrate ESG reporting into sustainability reporting.
- **For COOs & Supply Chain Directors:** Discover how to utilize **data** to mitigate Scope 3 financial risks across your value chain.
- **For Risk & Legal Officers:** Preview legal strategies to navigate **AI-related data disclosure risks** under the CSRD frameworks.

Exclusive Conference ROI & Competitive Advantages

- **Audit Verified Best Practices:** Bypass theoretical advice. Analyze real-world data and good practices from the current **Horus & Adrastos Award winners**.
- **Direct Regulatory Access:** Engage in live discussions with policymakers, system designers, and the **CSR Europe & Slovenia CSO Network**.



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- **Future Workforce Insights:** Access localized intelligence regarding young workforce expectations and precarious employment to protect your talent pipeline.

⚡ **Register immediately!**

Do not let your organization fall behind its market peers. Register yourself and your team to for the conference attendance already today:

✉ **Submit Your Registration Form to:** info@irdo.si

📄 **See Full Conference Program:** www.irdo.si/en/irdo-conference/

Sincerely,

The IRDO 2026 Conference Programme & Organizational Committee



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Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

You are cordially invited to participate at the 21st IRDO international conference **INNOVATIVE, SUSTAINABLE and SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE SOCIETY 2026: Sustainability Management in Organisations**, which will take place **on June 16 and 17, 2026 – online and onsite**. You are invited to actively participate as an author and/or participant at the event.

The organisers are IRDO – Institute for the Development of Social Responsibility, the University of Maribor, and the Slovenian Society for Systems Research.

The goal of the conference is to bring together researchers, business professionals, policymakers, students, and senior experts to exchange ideas and practical solutions for managing sustainability in organisations. It focuses on how sustainability can be effectively built into everyday management, governance, and decision-making processes.

By promoting collaboration across generations, disciplines, and sectors, the conference aims to strengthen the ability of organisations to plan, implement, and report sustainability in a realistic and responsible way. In doing so, it supports the development of organisations that can innovate, adapt, and lead the transition toward a more sustainable and socially responsible society.

Action and learning are urgent for a more innovative, sustainable, and socially responsible society. By joining the conference, you will help co-create science-based wisdom for renewing our (un)sustainable systems, from societies and communities to organizations and businesses, and individuals too.

Therefore, we kindly invite you to participate in the conference to share your experiences, views, and suggestions with researchers, top consultants, experts, and experienced practitioners from around the globe.

To date, over 1,600 authors from around the world have participated in 20 IRDO conferences. Looking back, we can clearly see that we made a change. Previous IRDO conference proceedings can be obtained here: <https://www.irdo.si/en/irdo-conference/>

You are kindly invited to join us, to report on your findings and suggest your proposals for the future.

On behalf of the Program and Organisational Committees of the 21st IRDO Conference,

Prof. Igor Perko, PhD,
University of Maribor, Faculty of Economics and Business, Vice Chair of the IRDO Conference Programme Committee, Conference Program Coordinator

Prof. Emer. Matjaž Mulej, PhD, PhD,
University of Maribor, Faculty of Economics and Business, President of the IRDO Research & Expert Council and Chair of the IRDO Conference Programme Committee



SHORT PRESENTATION OF THE CONFERENCE

Managing sustainability in organisations is a complex task that extends far beyond merely following regulations or producing reports. It means finding the right balance between short-term business results and long-term environmental and social goals.

Managers must deal with numerous expectations—from customers, employees, investors, and regulators—while working in rapidly evolving systems. To succeed, they need to see the organisation as part of a wider network of people, resources, and impacts, and to turn sustainability goals into practical actions.

This requires integrating sustainability into everyday operations, innovation, and strategic planning, as well as building a company culture that supports responsibility and continuous learning. Uncertainty adds another layer of difficulty: markets evolve, new technologies like AI bring both opportunities and risks, and global supply chains are becoming more complex.

Managing all this effectively calls for flexibility, transparency, and cooperation across generations and departments. In the end, sustainability management is not a side activity—it is an essential part of building a responsible, competitive, and future-oriented organisation.

This is written also in legislation and several international documents, where is from governance point of view demanded to make changes in organizations – towards new, greener business models, which must be implemented in our everyday practice.

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THEMES AND TOPICS

1. Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Organisational Practices
2. CyberSystemics for Sustainable Organisations and Inter-generational and Future-Oriented Collaboration
3. Sustainability Reporting, certification schemes and awarding
4. AI and Digital Transformation for Sustainable and Responsible Governance
5. Sustainable Governance and Management: Social Impact Measurement & IRDO CSO Network in Slovenia
6. Sustainability in Community

Please see the program of the conference enclosed to this invitation.

INVITATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

We cordially invite you to discuss with authors of original papers and report on your contributions and plans to create a local, global, scientific or applied path from the current crisis to a more balanced, innovative, sustainable and socially responsible way of living and working! Every point of view is important.

Please register as soon as possible at: info@irdo.si



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PUBLICATION OF AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

We will produce conference e-proceedings and publish it at IRDO web page.

More information can also be found on the IRDO website <https://www.irdo.si/en/irdo-conference/>.

Language: The official conference language is English.

REGISTRATION & PARTICIPATION FEE:

| Registration fee depends on the form of participation. | Online registration fee (including VAT 22%) |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Participants | 200,00 € |
| <input type="checkbox"/> IRDO members, co-organisers, partner organisations | 180,00 € |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Students (under 30), unemployed, or senior participants | 50 % discount |

Payment due date and instructions:

- The registration fee must be transferred no later than 15 June 2026.
- Name: IRDO – Inštitut za razvoj družbene odgovornosti (Institute for the Development of Social Responsibility)
- Bank: OTP Banka d. d., Slovenska cesta 58, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia; SWIFT KBMASI2X
- Account number (IBAN): SI56-0451-5000-1074-492
- Address: IRDO – Institute for the Development of Social Responsibility, Cesta 13. julija 65a, SI-1261 Ljubljana – Dobrunje, Slovenia, EU
- Reference: 2311-2026
- Intent: IRDO Conference 2026
- Proof of payment: Participants will receive an original invoice as proof of payment of the conference fee.

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Additional information:

- The registration fee includes attendance at the conference events. VAT is included in the stated conference fee (IRDO is liable for VAT).
- The official language of the conference is English, unless only Slovenian-speaking participants will be present at a particular session. Invited lecturers and plenary lecturers are waived from paying the conference registration.
- All other authors pay the conference fee as stated. Students and seniors need to identify their status. An invoice will be issued upon receipt of your payment.
- In case of cancellation before 10th June 2026, 50 % of the registration fee will be refunded; after 10th June 2026, the registration fee will not be refunded.
- Participants without contributions must register for the conference with an application form and pay the registration fee.



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Donations and fundraising:

- Participants and organisations are kindly invited to support the Conference Organisation and implementation with their voluntary donations and/or sponsorships. For this, please contact conference@irdo.si. **Thank you for your contribution!**

Please allocate 1 % of income tax for our work with youth:

- If you are a Slovenian tax resident, you are kindly asked to support IRDO work with youth by your contribution (Allocate 1 % of income tax for youth development, social responsibility, and sustainable development). Thank you.
- More info can be found here: <https://www.irdo.si/namenite-1-dohodnine-za-razvoj-mladih-in-druzbene-odgovornosti-ter-trajnostnega-razvoja/>

Global warming archetype– Causes, effects, and strategies for coping

Greenhouse Gases:
CO2 Carbon Dioxide
CH4 Methane
N2O Nitrous oxide
Industrial Gases
Etc.

Floods
Droughts
Landslides
Destruction of biomes
Hunger, Poverty
Etc.

University of St.Gallen

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all Markus Schwamiger

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CONFERENCE BODIES

PROGRAMME COMMITTEE:

Chairs:

- Prof. Emeritus, Matjaž Mulej, PhD. PhD., University of Maribor, Faculty of Economics and Business, Department of Entrepreneurship and Business Economics, and IRDO Institute for the Development of Social Responsibility, Head of the IRDO Expert Committee and Head of the IRDO Scientific-research Centre board, Chairman of the IRDO Conference Programme Committee, Honorary Founding President of IASCYS (International Academy of Systems and Cybernetic Sciences), Member of three international academies of science, Slovenia.
- Prof. Emeritus, Peter Glavič, PhD., University of Maribor, Faculty of Chemical Engineering, Laboratory for Process Systems Engineering and Sustainable Development, Centre for Professors Emeriti and Retired Higher Education Teachers, University of Maribor, and Vice-Chairman of the IRDO Conference Programme Committee, Slovenia,
- Assoc. Prof. Igor Perko, PhD., University of Maribor, Faculty of Economics and Business, WOSC acting director-general, Vice-Chairman of the IRDO Conference Programme Committee, Conference Program Coordinator, Slovenia,
- Prof. Tadeja Jere Jakulin, PhD., University of Primorska, Faculty of Tourism Studies – TURISTICA, Piran, President of Society for System Research, Slovenia, Vice-Chairman of the IRDO Conference Programme Committee



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Members:

- Prof. Alexander Schieffer, PhD., Home for Humanity, France,
- Prof. Alfonso Reyes, PhD., University of Ibague, Ibague, Columbia,
- Prof. Emerit. Angela Espinosa, PhD., University of Hull, The Business School, UK,
- Anita Hrast, MSc., Manager of IRDO - Institute for the Development of Social Responsibility and President of the IRDO Conference Organising Committee, Slovenia,
- Prof. Darja Boršič, PhD., University of Maribor, Faculty of Economics and Business, Editor-in-Chief of "Our Economy" – Journal of Contemporary Issues in Economics and Business, Slovenia,
- Prof. Francesco Caputo, PhD., University of Napoli, Italy,
- Prof. Gerald Steiner, PhD., Prof. of Systemic and Sustainability Management, Donau University, Krems, Austria, and Harvard University, Boston, MA, USA,
- Helmut Loeckenhoff, PhD., Independent researcher, Backnang, Germany,
- Johannes Goellner, MSc. Dipl.-Ing. Chairman of the Board, Center of Risk & Crises Management (CRC), Vienna, Austria,
- Prof. Emeritus Jose Perez Rios, PhD., University of Valladolid, Spain,
- Prof. Milan Zorman, PhD., University of Maribor, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Slovenia,
- Prof. Mirko Markič, PhD., Faculty of Management, University of Primorska, Koper, Slovenia,
- Prof. Monty Lynn, PhD., Professor of Management, Abilene Christian University, Abilene, USA,
- Prof. Emeritus Pierre Bricage, PhD., Secretary General, International Academy for Systems and Cybernetic Sciences (IASCYS), Pau, and University of Pau, France,
- Prof. Raul Espejo, PhD., President of the World Organisation of Systems and Cybernetics (WOSC) and Director at Syncho Research, UK,
- Prof. Roberto Biloslavo, PhD., University of Primorska, Faculty of Management, Koper, Slovenia,
- Prof. Simona Šarotar Žižek, PhD., University of Maribor, Faculty of Economics and Business, Department of General Management and Organisation, Slovenia,
- Mag. Stefan Blachfellner, Bertalanffy Center for the Study of Systems Science & International Federation for Systems Research, Vienna, Austria,
- Prof. Emeritus Stuart Umpleby, PhD., former President of IASCYS (International Academy for Systems and Cybernetic Sciences), and George Washington University, Washington, D. C., USA,
- Prof. Tjaša Štrukelj, PhD., University of Maribor, Faculty of Economics and Business, Department of Strategic Management and Company Policy, Head of the Project 'Faculty of Economics and Business and Social Responsibility', Certified Leader for Social responsibility and Sustainable Development (2019), Slovenia,
- Prof. Urša Golob Podnar, PhD., Chair of Marketing Communications and Public Relations, Centre for Marketing and Public Relations, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Social Studies, Slovenia,
- Prof. Vladimir Lepskiy, PhD., Institute of Philosophy, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia,
- Prof. Vojko Potočan, PhD., University of Maribor, Faculty of Economics and Business, Slovenia,
- Assoc. Prof. Katja Crnogaj, PhD., University of Maribor, Faculty of Economics and Business, Slovenia,
- Prof. Barbara Bradač Hojnik, PhD., University of Maribor, Faculty of Economics and Business, Slovenia,
- Assoc. Prof. Zhanna Belyaeva, PhD., Prof. of Social Responsibility, Graduate School of Economics and Management, Head of Research Centre for Global Social Responsibility Excellence, Ural Federal University, Yekaterinburg, and EMBRI Country Director, Russia,
- Matej Skočir, MSc., Ministry of the Economy, Tourism and Sport, Republic of Slovenia,
- Urška Bitenc, MSc., Ministry of the Economy, Tourism and Sport, Republic of Slovenia,
- Katja Mohar Bastar, MSc., Digital Innovation Hub Slovenia,
- Prof. Črtomir Rozman, PhD., University of Maribor, Faculty of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Slovenia,
- Prof. Živko Bergant, PhD., College of Accountancy and Finance, Ljubljana, Slovenia.

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ORGANISATIONAL COMMITTEE:

- Anita Hrast, MSc., Manager of IRDO - Institute for the Development of Social Responsibility, and President of 2026 IRDO Conference Organising Committee, Slovenia,



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- Marko Lavrenčič, MSc., IRDO – Institute for the Development of Social Responsibility, Slovenia,
- Anita Marinko, MSc., IRDO – Institute for the Development of Social Responsibility, Slovenia,
- Nomi Hrast, MSc., IRDO – Institute for the Development of Social Responsibility, Slovenia,
- Miro Mihec, ETIKA d.o.o.
- Uroš Zupančič, HiperDesign, Slovenia.

ORGANISERS AND PARTNERS:

Organiser:



Co-organiser:



Co-organiser:



International partner:



Co-organiser:



Co-organiser:



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In cooperation with the supporting partners:

- International Academy for Systems and Cybernetic Sciences (IASCYS), France
- European Academy of Sciences and Arts, Salzburg
- International Federation for Systems Research (IFSR)
- CSR Europe
- Danube University Krems, Austria
- Ministry of the Economy, Tourism and Sport, Republic of Slovenia
- Digital Innovation Hub Slovenia
- Slovenian Association for Quality and Excellence
- Chamber of Commerce and Industry Styria, Slovenia
- Association of Employers of Slovenia
- Managers' Association of Slovenia

Sponsor:



Clipping partner:



CONTACT:

IRDO – Institute for the Development of Social Responsibility,
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