

**Making next steps in Getting Product Prices Right:**

**Challenges and Opportunities for Approaches for Disclosing the**

**Hidden Parts of the Prices of Products**



Special session organized by the

International Sustainable Research Society (ISDRS) at:

**Global Cleaner Production & Sustainable Consumption Conference:**

*Accelerating the Transition to Equitable Post Fossil-Carbon Societies*

Sitges, Barcelona, Spain, 1-4 November 2015

[www.cleanerproductionconference.com](http://www.cleanerproductionconference.com)

Session chairs:

Prof. dr. W.J.V. Vermeulen, Utrecht University / Stellenbosch University

Prof. dr. Rupert Baumgartner, University of Graz

Prof. dr. G.A. Norris, Harvard University

The plethora for determining the value of externalities has been heart for a few decades in environmental sciences, ecological economics and in the political debate about solutions to our unsustainable economy. Once the full costs of economic activities are known, better choices can be made and costs can be adjusted by means of taxation or otherwise. Successes have been booked in calculating externalities on the level of national economies and of investment projects. More recently academic scholars and practitioners have been suggesting and implementing approaches to calculate externalities linked to the full life cycle of products. Determining valid full prices of products embedded in complex international value chains and reflecting the wide variety of impacts through the full life cycle on all aspects related to the 'planet', 'people', and 'prosperity' is a very complex activity. Based on different theoretical points of departure various methodologies have been developed and both academics and practitioners have started to apply forms of calculating the 'full prices' of (consumer) products. Various labels have been attached to this practice, like 'full cost accounting', 'true costs', 'hidden prices', 'true prices', 'fair prices', 'green taxation', 'shadow prices', 'payments for ecosystem services', 'prevention costs', and more.

During this special session we convene academics and practitioners who are engaged in applying such approaches focussed on (consumer) products to discuss the communalities and variations in the fundamental choices in their approaches, methodological issues and the challenges and opportunities for the future. What are the next steps for wider application of such methodologies?

Papers to be presented will be considered for a special issue on the topic in the Journal of Cleaner Production.

During the Barcelona Conference the session will start with one or two invited keynotes.

Format and Procedures for Submission of Responses to this Call for Papers:

We invite **authors to prepare abstracts** of 500 words in response to this "Call-for-abstracts," which are to be prepared in English. The deadline for abstract is April 17th, 2015.

**Please submit your abstracts and/or proposals for panel discussions, simulations, knowledge cafés, and other interactive activities, via the conference website:** [www.cleanerproductionconference.com/submit-abstract.asp](http://www.cleanerproductionconference.com/submit-abstract.asp)

