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"Environmental Challenges: Action or Reaction to Save the Planet? Local and Global Strategies for Ecological and Societal Transition"

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON ADVANCES IN CLEANER PRODUCTION

Circular Economy beyond Technology. Lessons, Narratives and Research Directions.

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The case for solving the environmental crisis through a circular economy (CE) transition is gaining momentum. Nevertheless, environmental issues are often characterised as complex issues, because their causes may be multiple and interrelated, their impacts may be uncertain and potential solutions may cause unintended consequences. What is the CE able to do, not able to do, pretending to do, or ignoring in the face of these challenges? In this talk, based on recently published papers and on ongoing research, I will discuss different ways of framing circular economy, along with implications for research and practice. What I propose is an integration of theoretical and methodological approaches of multiple disciplines with the aim to deliver more than the sum of its parts and to broadening and deepening an understanding of the issues as interconnected social, political, economic and technical problems.