



7th
INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP
ADVANCES IN CLEANER PRODUCTION

“CLEANER PRODUCTION FOR ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS”

The Paradoxes and Delusions of Economics

Luca Coscieme

Trinity College Dublin - Ireland

Orthodox economics has seen many of its theoretical pillars undermined by the emergence of “paradoxes” and “delusions”. Despite this, unresolved debates and blind faith have protected the discipline’s status-quo, fostering unsustainable environmental, social, and economic policies. The Sustainable Development Goals could be achieved only through not focusing anymore on economic growth at all costs, but instead promoting wellbeing economies. We present an organic and chronological discussion of some paradoxes and delusions of economics, surrounding efficiency and resource use; wealth and wellbeing; economic growth; and the distribution of wealth between rich and poor nations. We highlight the need to reform mainstream economics and its unquestioned status as the primary academic discipline for informing national and international policy and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.