



... How Can Money Make Sense conference Czech Republic 12. - 13. 9. 2013

The Department of Environmental Studies at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Masaryk University, Brno, in cooperation with the Economy and Society Trust and the Charles University Environment Center is pleased to invite you to **the first conference on ethical finance in the Czech Republic ... How Can Money Make Sense.**

Venue: Faculty of Social Sciences, Joštova 10, Brno, Czech Republic

Date: September 12 – September 13, 2013

Language: Czech, English - simultaneously interpreted

Subject of the Conference and Its Aims

The Western world has been looking for ethical financial systems for the last several decades. These efforts have been made even more urgent in recent years by the onset of the economic and debt crisis. In the Czech Republic, the public is getting increasingly interested in opportunities to dispose of their money in a responsible, social, and environmentally sustainable way. There are, however, no such opportunities within the Czech bank and investment system. People have no other option but to entrust their money to conventional banks, which give little insight into what future they support with the accumulated funds.

The aim of the conference is therefore to initiate the process that could lead to the founding of a financial institution which would allow people in the Czech Republic to dispose of their financial assets ethically, socially, and in an environmentally sustainable way. The conference will introduce selected representatives of foreign ethical banks, along with all their experience and inspiration. Also attending will be local experts and active groups or individuals who care about the way how the money concentrated in banks influences the future of the country. We feel that bringing ethical saving and investment into the Czech Republic is an urgent and doable task.

Preliminary Programme

Thursday the 12th will be devoted to presentations by guests from the EU and the Czech Republic. The day will end with a panel discussion on the possibilities of establishing ethical financial institutions in the Czech Republic, followed by an informal social evening. On Friday 13th, participants will explore various ways to create an ethical financial institution in working groups. Conclusions from the working groups will then be presented in a final panel.

The following people have confirmed their attendance so far: Oskar Kjelberg – JAK non-interest bank (Sweden), Christophe Guene – social finance economist (Belgium), representative of Banka Etica (Italy), Hans-Florian Hoyer - GLS socially-ecological bank (Germany), Markus Stegellner – Demokratische Bank Wien (Austria), Jaromír Hošek – Credits credit co-operative (Czech Republic). Pending: Bank Spółdzielczy w Nakle cooperative bank (Poland), HITHIT crowdfunding web project (Czech republic), representative of Ministry of Finance of the Czech republic.

Thursday, September 12, 2013

10:00-10:20 official opening and welcome
10:20-12:20 guest presentations
12:20-14:00 lunch
14:40-16:40 guest presentations
16:40-17:00 coffee break
17:00-18:00 panel discussion
Evening buffet

Friday, September 13, 2013

09:30-11:00 working groups
11:00-11:20 coffee break
11:20-12:50 conclusions of the working groups, official ending
12:50-14:00 lunch

Registration:

Participants can register for the conference through [the following form](#). The deadline is **30 August**. After filling in the form, participants will be asked to pay the registration fee which is either CZK 500 (if registered before 30 June) or CZK 700 (if registered after 30 June). The conference fee does not include accommodation. The registration is only valid after the fee has been paid. Participants willing to register after 30 August should discuss their attendance directly with the event organisers.

If you are interested in attending the conference email us at: konference@thinktank.cz. We will be happy to get back to you with current information. Or follow us at: www.thinktank.cz

Contact person:

Nikola Fousková
Email: konference@thinktank.cz
Phone: +420 603 863 351
Environment Center, Charles University

Conference Venue:

Faculty of Social Studies
Masaryk university
Joštova 10,
602 00 Brno, Czech Republic



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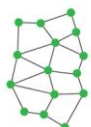


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