



#NesiForum #NewEconomy

## PRESS RELEASE

# The New Economy and Social Innovation Forum closes its doors with 94 proposals to build a fairer and more ethical economic system

- **Over 700 people from 43 countries participated in this international event**
- **Local institutions committed to promoting social innovation to boost development in urban and rural areas**

**In Málaga, on 24th April 2017.** 94 proposals to build a fairer and more ethical economic system that puts people first. That was the main outcome of the first New Economy and Social Innovation Global Forum (NESI Forum), which took place in Málaga, Spain, from 19th to 22nd April 2017. This international event gathered over 700 people, 60 speakers and 80 facilitators from 43 countries to reflect and share their ideas about how to improve the current economic system.

Representatives from the new economy movements such as **Christian Felber**, founder of the Economy for the Common Good movement, which focusses on how companies can contribute towards people's well-being; **Gunter Pauli**, creator fo the concept of Blue Economy, that believes in creating links between nature and economy to reduce our actions' impact on the environment; and **Tessa Wernink**, co-founder of Fairphone, the first smartphone with values, contributed to NESI Forum and sent a clear message to the world: economy needs to become more participative, plural and inclusive.

Diego Isabel La Moneda, director of NESI Forum and co-founder of the Global Hub for the Common Good, said: "NESI Forum is just the beginning, just the first step to change our society and the relationship between companies, public institutions and citizens." And he added: "It is the first time all the new economy movements have got together and we don't want only words, but also facts."

**94 PROPOSALS FOR ACTION**



NESI Forum resulted in 94 proposals to promote collaboration amongst the new economy movements in four key areas: ethical banking, sustainability, organisations and education. Amongst these proposals, there were ideas such as the participation of consumers and users in the businesses that provide them with products and services –including people’s contribution to management and product design-, the promotion of circular economy through education, and the remuneration of voluntary work.

Rafael Ventura, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Málaga, highlighted the role of the university as a driver of change: “There were more than 30 professors and 100 university students participating at NESI because we truly believe we can change the world for the better through education and research,” he explained.

Elías Bendodo, president of Málaga’s Regional Council, one of NESI Forum’s key partners, committed to taking innovation everywhere in the region “to ensure all the citizens have the same opportunities”. He also reflected on the positive and negative impacts of tourism in the region and talked about the role it plays in the sustainable development of Andalusian territories, and committed to the promotion of a Sustainable Tourism Forum in Malaga next year.

Julio Andrade, Councillor for the Participation from the Málaga City Council, the other key partner of the New Economy and Social Innovation Global Forum, promised he would promote civic participation in local decision making and ensured the council would take ethical criteria into account when looking for public services suppliers: “We need to create new spaces of dialogue so that innovative enterprises have access to capital to fund their projects”.

NESI Forum closed its doors with an open day at the Centre of Contemporary Art with activities for children and the elderly which included documentary screenings, workshops and an exhibition area for local projects.

- ENDS -

## **NOTES FOR EDITORS**

### **ABOUT NESI**

NESI Forum is the only Global Forum on New Economy and Social Innovation, which brings together the main actors of change and opinion leaders to think, talk and lay the



# New Economy & Social Innovation

foundations of a new economy - more sustainable, social, based on values and aimed at the common good. It will gather 900 speakers, opinion leaders and change-makers from all over the world in Malaga, Spain, on 19th-22th April 2016.

NESI is supported by the [Global Hub for the Common Good Foundation](#), a think-tank with international experts, created in 2015 with the vision of boosting a new social, economic and political model geared towards the common good.

This event will not be possible without the support of our local hosts, the [Malaga City Council](#) and the [Malaga Regional Council](#).

More information on [www.neweconomyforum.org](http://www.neweconomyforum.org)

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*NESI Forum press kit and spokespeople list also attached.*