An Age of Green Economics:  
A groundbreaking new book:

Green Economics and Young People, Green Jobs, Employment, and Education

Young people today are often described as the generation of the future, but really young people carry a far more significant burden – They are the present, as well as the future!

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Edited by  
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This book is designed to be used to begin to correct the issues on that journey and for young people to claim back economics and for older people to start to appreciate the issues from the perspective of young people for the sake of the future of everyone and everything on the planet. We need young people and we need to understand the world from their perspective and we need to vision the future through their eyes, as the only future we will all have, will be through them. This book tells their stories and how they want to use green economics to create change in the world!


Part 1: Introduction  
Part 2: Green economy, young people and green jobs  
Part 3: Women – access and inclusion  
Part 4: Social Justice, Poverty and Human Rights  
Part 5: Climate Change and Sustainable Development  
Part 6: Biodiversity and Species Extinction  
Part 7: Green Economics and Education  
Part 8: Internships, work experience and life long learning

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Preface and Rationale for the book
Young People Today – Facing the Challenges of Tomorrow

We are often criticised for the general complacency, that the biggest challenges in our daily life are simply worrying about our access to our social networks, or what to wear or what our plans for the evening are. While peer pressure, binge drinking and a media-induced body cult do play significant roles in our life, it is often forgotten that our generation is also characterized by ethical responsibility, a sincere desire for knowledge and the strong urge to change the world in ways other generations only fantasised about but didn’t actually bother to achieve. The economic crisis hit us brutally; The unemployment rate among young people has never been higher. High government and state indebtedness does not allow for support, so the education system is reserved only for those who can afford it and international competition is an ever increasing threat. Even in the growing economies, the requirements expected from young professionals are preposterous; we have to be young, well educated, to have experience, to be flexible not to mention we have to be unpretentious when it comes to salaries.

However it is not only the economic crisis that worries us. Though we do see our very livelihood at stake, we are also very aware of what is going on around us. War, poverty, hunger, inequality and fatal diseases surround us in the media every day. The information age and the internet supply us with the shocking data of the mass extinction of species, of rising sea levels and climate change.

In his movie An Inconvenient Truth Al Gore stated, “Future generations may well have the occasion to ask themselves, “What were our parents thinking? Why didn’t they wake up when they had a chance?” Well, this is the moment to wake up and to hear that question from them now!”

We ask this question, but we do not receive satisfactory answers. As young people, we realize that the shift towards implementing a greener economy will not be handed to us easily. So now we are want to really take action! Although we know the state of the world was not in anyway caused by us, we feel a massive and universal responsibility to try to make it a better place for everyone and everything on the planet!

Biographies of the Editors:

Miriam Kennet is CEO, director and co-founder of the Green Economics Institute and the founder and editor of the International Journal of Green Economics. She is a member of Mansfield College, Oxford University and the Environmental Change Institute, Oxford University. Her research at South Bank University, London and at Templeton College, Oxford University focused on green issues and strategic management of international firms. She is editor and author of 100s of articles, book chapters and books in many languages. Miriam recently was named as one of the 100 most powerful women making change globally at a ceremony in London. She is the founder and Director of The Green Economics Institute and the International Journal of Green Economics.

Juliane Göke is an editor and a member of the editorial board for the International Journal of Green Economics and has studied International Business Management and Governance at Paderborn, Hagen and Sheffield Universities. She worked in Germany and Indonesia in the Consultancy sector. Her research interests are sustainable business solutions and renewable energies in developing countries.

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