

## CUMULUS MILAN 2015 CONFERENCE. THE VIRTUOUS CIRCLE.

Milan, Politecnico di Milano, June 3-7, 2015

Website: <http://cumulusmilan2015.org>

### DEGIS AGENDA - IN PROGRESS

(Anna Meroni [anna.meroni@polimi.it](mailto:anna.meroni@polimi.it))

Dear DESIS friends,

the Cumulus Milan conference will offer the opportunity to organize, besides the general assembly, a series of activities, workshops and seminars curated by the DESIS Labs around the DESIS emerging issues, recent works and hot topics.

A preliminary list of activities is here presented. More suggestions are welcome by input of the Labs. Please consider that, for more informal and short activities, we can also decide to use the timeslot of Wednesday morning 11:30 – 13:00 or some lunch/coffee breaks.

Finally, since we are in the process of progressive convergence toward some common issues that will allow us to come to a consistent series of initiatives and publications, we invite the Labs, when possible, to “tag” their suggestions with one of the DESIS issues, so as to make easier to support effective debates:

1. Governance and policymaking
2. Activism and civic participation
3. Social interactions and relations
4. City and environmental planning
5. Production, distribution and consumption
- 5.A. Food and agriculture
- 5.B. Manufacturing and energy
6. Job creation, entrepreneurship and training
7. Storytelling and visualization

As you can see from the program below, the proposed activities are already organized according to this criteria. Please email Anna Meroni [anna.meroni@polimi.it](mailto:anna.meroni@polimi.it) and Davide Fassi [davide.fassi@polimi.it](mailto:davide.fassi@polimi.it) for suggestions.

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2015 - 14 am - 16.30 pm  
@polimi, Bovisa Campus, Via Durando, 10 - Building B9, Aula Castiglioni

### DESIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The DESIS general assembly will be the opportunity to discuss the state of the Association and the on-going and future activities. Laboratories are invited to briefly present their most recent projects and initiatives. Please contact the above contact point for suggestions and proposals.  
More info to come.

The Cumulus Milano general assembly will be also the opportunity for debating together the report about the DESIS Network Association elaborated by UFRJ DESIS Lab (Carla Cipolla and Rita Alfonso) within the context of the EC supported project TRANSIT (Transformative Social Innovation Theory) <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu>

**CONTACTS:** Desis Network - [labs@desis-network.org](mailto:labs@desis-network.org)

MILANO SOCIAL EXPO: DESIS IN TOWN  
Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2015 - 14.30 am - 17.00 pm  
@various venues in town

**COORDINATOR OF THE ACTIVITIES:** Davide Fassi - [davide.fassi@polimi.it](mailto:davide.fassi@polimi.it)

**PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION AND CONSUMPTION - MANUFACTURING**  
DESIS Makers' Inquiry. National Investigation on Makers and Making

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2015 - 14:30 - 17:00

Venue: Polifactory, Politecnico di Milano, Campus Bovisa, via Durando 10

The Project Makers' Inquiry invites you for a public presentation and debate around the results of the survey conducted on more than 130 makers around Italy.

MAKERS' INQUIRY is a project promoted and coordinated by the Department of Design of Politecnico di Milano together with Make in Italy Foundation CDB and Make in Italy Association. This initiative is supported by DESIS Network.

It is a 'open and replicable' research format, aiming at exploring the condition of makers who operate in a certain geographical reality. The first draft of MAKERS' INQUIRY has been tested in Italy. It explores makers world from several points of view – ethnographic, economic, technological, manufacturing and design – in order to understand how this phenomenon is evolving.

It is a part of the DESIS DOP Cluster, Distributed and Open Production.

<http://makersinquiry.org/it/>

The Makers' Inquiry main research group is composed by Stefano Maffei and Massimo Bianchini, with Alessandra Carosi, Dipartimento di Design, Politecnico di Milano, DESIS DOP Cluster; Francesco Bombardi, FabLab Reggio Emilia, Fondatore Associazione Make in Italy, Università di Modena e R. Emilia; Massimo Menichinelli, Director Fondazione Make in Italy CDB, Aalto University, Department of Media, Media Lab Helsinki.

**COORDINATOR OF THE ACTIVITY:** Davide Fassi - [davide.fassi@polimi.it](mailto:davide.fassi@polimi.it)

**PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION AND CONSUMPTION - FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**  
DESIS Food – Cluster: Design for Social Food

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2015 - 14:30 - 17:00

Venue: TBD

The DESIS Food Cluster invites you for a first debate with different experts around the on going results of the Food Cluster, the DESIS initiative that is reflecting around design for social innovation in the food system.

The Food Cluster is an initiative of DESIS and collects projects developed by different DESIS Labs: it aims to highlight some transversal issues and, with this, propitiates further reflections and transversal knowledge. The aim of the Cluster is to build a common understanding of how design for social innovation can contribute to the food systems, to collect the experience of the Network around this, and to open up a mature debate with external cases and stakeholders, with particular reference to the very hot topic of putting design creativity and expertise at the disposal of the definition of food policies for the cities. The Food Cluster, launched in January 2015 by an initial group of promoters invites all the design community to participate by presenting projects and experiences.

<http://desis-foodcluster.org>

Promoters: Polimi DESIS Lab, Milan: Anna Meroni, Maria Ferreira Litowtschenko - SDS, Brussels: François Jégou; Christophe Gouache - Design Society Development DESIS Lab, Johannesburg: Angus Donald Campbell; Naudé Malan.

**COORDINATOR OF THE ACTIVITY:** Davide Fassi - [davide.fassi@polimi.it](mailto:davide.fassi@polimi.it)

## JOB CREATION, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND TRAINING

### DESIS for TRANSITION: The Social Innovation Journey

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2015 -14:30 - 17:00

Venue: TBD

The EC supported project TRANSITION (Transnational Network for Social Innovation Incubation), through the POLIMI DESIS Lab, invites you for a first open reflection around the Social Innovation Journey, an experimental path to support and incubate social innovations.

TRANSITION is an on-going 30-month project that supports the scaling-up of social innovations across Europe by developing a network of incubators, which brings together established partners within the fields of social innovation and innovation-based incubation.

The Social Innovation Journey (SIJ) is the methodological result of the first year of action-research and aims at laying the conceptual and operative foundations of a European Network for Social Innovation Incubators.

The workshop will be an opportunity to discuss the SIJ with the Design community and to start a wider reflection on the potential of social innovation to create new job opportunities and social orientated business and to build new competences with and for the innovators.

<http://transitionproject.eu>

TRANSITION is a consortium composed by: European BIC Network (EBN), Belgium; The Young Foundation, UK; NESTA, UK; Denokinn, Spain; Price, France; SEA, Portugal; WestBic, Ireland; Social Innovation eXchange (SIX), UK; Politecnico di Milano - Polimi DESIS Lab with Make a Cube<sup>3</sup>

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## STORYTELLING AND VISUALIZATION

### DESIS Philosophy Talk Series: Storytelling and Design for Social Innovation

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2015 -14:30 - 17:00

Venue: TBD

Pearl Diver, Designer as Storyteller

DESIS Philosophy Talks Storytelling and Design for Social Innovation invites you for a special edition of our discussion where our new book will be presented for the first time to the public! Many contributors will present their work from the book, which was edited by Elisa Bertolotti, Heather Daam, Francesca Piredda, Virginia Tassinari.

Nowadays we are encountering many different ways in which designers are telling stories of social innovation. This phenomena encouraged us to start a reflection on the philosophical value of storytelling, and see whether this can be somehow helpful in feeding our practice as designers. In the past years we have been exploring how to tell these stories through a series of philosophical conversations with designers, philosophers, as well as practitioners and theorists from many different fields through the DESIS Philosophy Talk series about Storytelling and Design for Social Innovation.

Specifically over the last two years we have been researching several issues, such as the multiple definitions of storytelling, ethical issues connected to it, the poetic value of telling stories as means to empower the public realm, the idea of storyteller as story-listener, and the value and meaning of time in telling stories.

<http://www.desis-philosophytalks.org/about/>

**COORDINATOR OF THE ACTIVITY:** Davide Fassi - [davide.fassi@polimi.it](mailto:davide.fassi@polimi.it)

Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup> 2015 - 10.00 - 12.00

Venue: TBD

## DESIGN, WHEN EVERYBODY DESIGNS

Ezio Manzini presents and discusses with the participants his last book: "Design, When Everybody Designs"

In a changing world, everyone designs: each individual person and each collective subject, from enterprises to institutions, from communities to cities and regions, must define and enhance a life project. In this framework, the book distinguishes between diffuse design (performed by everybody) and expert design (performed by those who have been trained as designers) and maps what the second can do to trigger and support meaningful social changes.