

# European Ecovillage Conference 2017

## Ängsbacka, Sweden



The Global Ecovillage Network Europe (GEN Europe) announces the 21st edition of its summer conference, “Conscious Happiness: Living the Future Today- Solidarity, Resilience & Hope” July 16th-20th 2017 at the Swedish ecovillage Ängsbacka. This annual event, which draws hundreds of intentional communarians and their supporters from across Europe each year, offers speakers, expositions, workshops and a place to meet, inspire and be inspired. In an era of uncertain ecological and political futures, Robert Hall, GEN Europe’s Council President, invites participants to “come and network with Europe’s grassroots change-makers. Join us to learn ways of increasing your happiness while being of greater service to humanity and the planet.”

The Global Ecovillage Network is a membership-based coalition of Ecovillages, or intentional communities, that holistically integrate ecological, economic, social and cultural sustainability into regenerative living models. The GEN Europe network connects, sustains and diffuses the work of ecovillage and communities across Europe.

About the conference:: <http://www.angsbacka.se/GEN>

Facebook event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1334767663264375/>

General enquiry: [conference@gen-europe.org](mailto:conference@gen-europe.org)

This year's conference themes of Solidarity, Resilience and Hope will weave into conference workshops and activity tracks, tied together by keynote speakers **Charles Eisenstein** and **Helena Norberg-Hodge**.

Charles Eisenstein is a self-described “degrowth activist” and the internationally-acclaimed author of *Sacred Economics* and *The More Beautiful World Our Hearts Know is Possible*, described by *Publisher's Weekly* as “a revolutionary and interactive book...inspires the reader to think out of the ordinary.” He has been described as “one of the up-and-coming great minds of our time.”



Helena Norberg-Hodge is a pioneer of the ‘new economy’ movement, where she has been promoting an economics of personal, social and ecological well-being for more than thirty years. She is an author, filmmaker and director of the organization *Local Futures*, which promotes a systemic shift away from economic globalization towards localization. In 2011, she produced and co-directed the award winning film *The Economics of Happiness*.



Each year the summer conference showcases the ingenuity of member communities in the Ecovillage Sustainable Technology Exposition, or E.S.T.Expo, a demonstration lab featuring sustainable technologies such as solar ovens, thermo-compost heating systems and water purifiers designed in European Ecovillages. Participants in the 5 day event can expect a family-friendly drug and alcohol free experience with the possibility to choose activities based on their interests, managed campsites with outdoor facilities and full vegetarian catering. “A more beautiful world IS possible... and you will experience a part of it during the gathering at Ängsbacka” welcomes Ewa Jacobsson of Ängsbacka.

About the conference: <http://www.angsbacka.se/GEN>

Facebook event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1334767663264375/>

General enquiry: [conference@gen-europe.org](mailto:conference@gen-europe.org)

## INFORMATION

About the conference:: <http://www.angsbacka.se/GEN>

Facebook event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1334767663264375/>

General enquiry: [conference@gen-europe.org](mailto:conference@gen-europe.org)

Press contact:

For interviews in English and Italian: Evan Welkin +39 334 259 0522, [pr@gen-europe.org](mailto:pr@gen-europe.org)

In Swedish: Annette Ericsson Bettaieb, [annette@tgim.se](mailto:annette@tgim.se), + 46 70 777 91 00

### GEN - Global Ecovillage Network

The Global Ecovillage Network was founded 20 years ago and represents over 100 countries in the 5 continents. GEN-Europe is a network that connects, sustains and diffuses the work of ecovillages and communities. The network offers consulting and coordination for member communities across Europe as well as supporting projects of interdependence, including an international youth exchange program, a community-sponsored forced migration relief project, and advocacy in grassroots climate change networks. GEN-Europe has representation in Brussels under the umbrella of ECOLISE, together with other intercontinental networks; also, it has a consultative status at the UN for educational material for 10 years.

[www.gen-europe.org](http://www.gen-europe.org)

### Ängsbacka

Ängsbacka, outside Karlstad in Sweden, is a vital meeting place for people who want to live a more conscious life, live from the heart and care for our planet. Since 1997 thousands of people have been touched by the warm, open, loving atmosphere during workshops, festivals and visits at Ängsbacka.

Ängsbacka is a full member of GEN Europe since 2016.

[www.angsbacka.se](http://www.angsbacka.se)



[www.gen-europe.org](http://www.gen-europe.org)



[www.angsbacka.se](http://www.angsbacka.se)