The ability to take collective actions, i.e. collective agency, is a key limiting factor for sustainability. Collective agency entails, among other things, identifying problems, understanding them, finding solutions, establishing consensus and implementing actions. Each of these aspects imposes limits and challenges on collective agency and they entail non-trivial trade-offs, e.g. between efficiency and resilience, or between individual freedom and social welfare. Understanding these aspects is key for realistic efforts towards a sustainable future.

The workshop will discuss collective agency from different angles (sociology, political science, evolution of cultures, collective behaviour of animal groups and in artificial societies, neuroscience), drawing from different disciplines.

The workshop aims at promoting scientific research on these subjects, by identifying specific questions that can be tackled in a quantitative manner.

The workshop is supported by National Institute of Oceanography and Applied Geophysics (OGS) and Trieste International Foundation for the Progress and Freedom of Sciences (FIT) as part of The Laboratory on Quantitative Sustainability (TLQS) initiative.

**Description:**
The ability to take collective actions, i.e. collective agency, is a key limiting factor for sustainability. Collective agency entails, among other things, identifying problems, understanding them, finding solutions, establishing consensus and implementing actions. Each of these aspects imposes limits and challenges on collective agency and they entail non-trivial trade-offs, e.g. between efficiency and resilience, or between individual freedom and social welfare. Understanding these aspects is key for realistic efforts towards a sustainable future.

The workshop will discuss collective agency from different angles (sociology, political science, evolution of cultures, collective behaviour of animal groups and in artificial societies, neuroscience), drawing from different disciplines.

The workshop aims at promoting scientific research on these subjects, by identifying specific questions that can be tackled in a quantitative manner.

The workshop is supported by National Institute of Oceanography and Applied Geophysics (OGS) and Trieste International Foundation for the Progress and Freedom of Sciences (FIT) as part of The Laboratory on Quantitative Sustainability (TLQS) initiative.

**Directors:**
M. GALESIC, Santa Fe Institute, USA
J. GRILLI, ICTP, Italy
S. A. LEVIN, Princeton University, USA
P. A. MARQUET, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile
H. OLSSON, Complexity Science Hub Vienna, Austria
G. SANGUINETTI, SISSA, Italy

**Organiser:**
M. MARISLI, ICTP, Italy

**Further Information:**
E-mail: smr3937@ictp.it
Web: http://indico.ictp.it/event/10475/
Female scientists are encouraged to apply.

**Grants:**
A limited number of grants are available to support the attendance of selected participants, with priority given to participants from developing countries. There is no registration fee.