Initiated by
European Environmental Bureau
European Trade Union Confederation
Platform of European Social NGOs
Concord [umbrella of national platforms of development NGOs]
PURPOSE

To mobilize civil society across Europe

To convince EU’s Decisionmakers to change course: from competitiveness and growth to focus on people and planet: creating an EU characterised by sustainable development, in particular respecting nature’s carrying capacity and quality of life for all, economic policies that deliver these, and a positive role globally in meeting social and environmental challenges

Specific Targets: New Commission and Spring Summit/neo-Lisbon Strategy

WORK ON A MANIFESTO

Kick-off Conference 29-30 January

Working Groups/meetings on specific issues (climate/energy, resource use, infrastructures, economic development, tools/instruments, EU budget)

From end April: drafting a Manifesto on basis of Working Groups results

3 June: first official draft Manifesto – input gathering

17 June: Conference to discuss the Manifesto [also with business representatives]

Early July: finalization and subscription by the initiators and other European/national organisations
People and Planet

- Establish inclusive societies
- Promote green and quality jobs
- Assume global responsibility
- Improve democracy
- Avoid ecosystem collapse
THE DRAFT MANIFESTO DEMANDS

A. Preserve ecosystem
   1. Reduce resource use and energy consumption
   2. Prevent dangerous climate change
   3. Make agriculture and fisheries sustainable
   4. Adopt a “Biodiversity Rescue Plan”

B. Establish inclusive societies
   5. Reduce inequalities and eradicate poverty
   6. Guarantee universal access to essential and public services
   7. Combat discrimination and racism and respect migrants and ethnic minorities' rights

C. Promote green and quality jobs
   8. Reinforce quality jobs and improve access for all
   9. Ensure a just transition to quality jobs, and help workers move into new emerging activities
THE DRAFT MANIFESTO DEMANDS

D. Assume global responsibility
   10 Reform global governance
   11. Guarantee policy coherence to achieve development goals
   12. Increase and improve development aid

E. Economy and governance
   13. Put in place a new economic strategy
   14. Revise the Better Regulation instruments

F. Improve democracy
   15. Invest in dialogue with European citizens, trade unions and civil society
   16. Improve access to and scrutiny of decision-making
   17. Strengthen the governance of EU strategies and of the Open Method of Coordination
BIGGEST CHALLENGES

- **Tone**: insist on urgency, dramatic change, at the same time want to have influence in current context.
- **Making the manifesto relevant for national level.**
- **Consensus about ambitious climate policy** [the most concrete part of the environmental agenda] in times of rapidly growing unemployment.
- **Giving the social dimension its proper place/weight**: underestimated by environmentalists: the increasing inequalities; the people in our society that cannot cope with today’s challenges and/or that are dependent from public services/support;
- **The mobilisation of business**: might buy the environmental dimension, not the social one or international solidarity one.
Mid July: Finalized Manifesto
- 25 July: presentation at Informal Environmental Ministers Council
- 28 September: Conference in Brussels, debate with EU decisionmakers and others (Barroso, Olofson?, .....)
- Autumn: setting up national Spring Alliance support platforms – for debate with national governments, MP, MEPs
- Autumn: SDS and eco-efficient economy conclusions in Councils
- Approach individual (nominated Commissioners)
- Possibly: conference early 2010: Copenhagen Summit and consequences for the new Lisbon Strategy.