



European Economic and Social Committee

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**Civil society as a driving force
in the implementation
of the 2030 Agenda**



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The UN 2030 Agenda

- ➔ Leadership of the UN
- ➔ Putting sustainable development back to the center
- ➔ Will it have a real impact?



Challenges for the EU

- ➔ A universal agenda
- ➔ **Challenge:** reducing environmental impacts
- ➔ **Challenge:** increasing social coherence and inclusion
- ➔ **Opportunity:** putting sustainable development back on the EU agenda
- ➔ **Needed:** integrated strategy for a sustainable Europe in a globalised world - time horizon of at least 2030
- ➔ Next step: roadmap



The role of civil society in the policy cycle of sustainable development

- ➔ Setting goals and targets
→ CSOs contributing and sharing
- ➔ Establishing strategies and key sector policy programmes
→ CSOs co-creators
- ➔ Implementation
→ CSOs co-implementors (multi-stakeholder partnerships)
- ➔ Monitoring and review
→ CSOs as watchdogs



3 mechanisms of effective civil society involvement

- ➔ An organisational and procedural structure facilitating participation
- ➔ A continuous process rather than ad-hoc consultations
- ➔ Inclusion of all relevant governmental and non-governmental actors



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A European Sustainable Development Forum

- ➔ Regular, structured framework for CSO involvement at EU level
- ➔ Active role of CSOs
- ➔ Integrated into the cycle of the SDG implementation, monitoring and policy review at EU level
- ➔ Hosted by EESC in partnership with the commission and CSOs