Andreas Versmann
European Economic and Social Committee

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