8th ESDN Workshop

Brussels, 22-23 November 2012

Hosted by the ESDN in cooperation with the
German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU),
the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) & Vita Foundation Germany

Agenda

Organisational issues

Time: 22 November 2012, 09:30-17:30 & 23 November 2012, 09:00-13:00

Workshop Venue: European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), Room TRE 7701, Tréves Building, 74, rue de Trèves, 1040 Brussels

Moderator: Peter Woodward (Quest Associates, UK)

22 November 2012, 09:30-17:30

09:00 – 09:30 Registration

Welcome and introduction

09:30 – 09:40 Welcome addresses
Michael Smyth (President of the Section for Economic and Monetary Union and Economic and Social Cohesion, European Economic and Social Committee) & Elisabeth Freytag (Federal Ministry of the Environment, Austria & ESDN co-chair)

09:40 – 10:00 Introduction to the workshop: Financial markets and sustainable development – SD perspective, scope of the topic, and the major challenges
Jörg Mayer-Ries (BMU, Germany) & André Martinuzzi (ESDN Office Coordinator, Austria)
Setting the stage: Different views on the international economic and financial markets and how they are connected to sustainable development

10:00  Double global sustainability: International macro-economic perspectives and long-term environmental modernization
Paul Welfens (Professor of European Economic Integration, University of Wuppertal/EIIW, Germany)

10:30  Financial markets and SD: Clarification of concepts, major actors, current challenges and how the financial market is connected to SD
Richard Werner (Director of Centre for Banking, Finance and Sustainable Development, University of Southampton, UK)

11:00-11:30  Coffee Break

11:30  Banking governance, financial crisis and structural challenges – the micro-level perspective of sustainability
Volker Abel (Senior Manager, Department for Strategy & Finance in zeb/rolfes.schierenbeck.associates, Germany)

12:00  Perspectives on double sustainability in Japan: Environmental aspects and long term economic dynamics
Akira Maeda (Professor, University of Tokyo, Japan)

12:30  Plenary discussion – International economic issues, financial markets and sustainable development

13:00 – 14:00  Lunch

European banking and business experiences

14:00  What could sustainable banking contribute towards a sustainable Europe?
James Vaccaro (Director, Investment Management at Triodos Bank & Global Alliance for Banking on Values, UK)

14:15  Indices, sustainability ratings and the Dow Jones Sustainability Index
Guido Giese (Head of Indexes, SAM Group)

14:30  The German Sustainability Code: Transparency and benchmarking of a company’s sustainability performance
Ralf Frank (Secretary General, Society of Investment Professionals (DFVA) in Germany)

14:45  Q&A Session

15:30 - 16:00  Coffee Break
16:00  Working Groups discussions – What can be learned from the presented cases for SD policy and governance

16:45  Reports from the working groups
      *Rapporteurs*

17:00  Plenary session – Reflection of different perspectives and questions raised during the day

17:30  End of day 1

18:00-20:00  *Evening Reception with buffet dinner at the EESC, Salon Vitré n°1-3, Jacques Delors Building, 99 rue Belliard, 1040 Brussels*
23 November 2012, 09:00-12:30

09:00 Reflection of day 1: Important statements and questions discussed on financial markets and SD
Jörg Mayer-Ries (BMU, Germany) & André Martinuzzi (ESDN Office Coordinator, Austria)

European policy experiences

09:15 UK: Financial markets, institutions and policies in the UK – a sustainability perspective
Chiara von Gunten (Branch Director, Z/Yen Group Limited, UK & Programme Manager of the London Accord)

09:30 Germany: The German approach towards financial markets and its relation towards sustainable development
Dorothea Schäfer (Research Director Financial Markets, German Institute for Economic Research)

09:45 Italy: From the financial crisis to the public debt crisis – some considerations on the Italian Case
Stefania Rossi (Professor of Macroeconomics, Department of Economics, University of Cagliari, Italy)

10:00 Interactive discussion – What can be learned from the presented cases for SD policy and what does this imply for future actions and governance?

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

Defining fields of action and governance implications

11:00 Panel discussion: What actions are important in the near future and what are the implications for SD governance?
- Alexandra Vakrou / Ariane de Dominicis (DG Environment, European Commission)
- Joost van Iersel (President of the Europe 2020 Steering Committee, European Economic and Social Committee)
- Richard Burrett (Co-chair, UNEP Finance Initiative & Earth Capital Partners LLP)
- Alessandro Vercelli (Professor at the Department of Political Economy at University of Siena, Italy & partner in FESSUD project on financialisation, economy, society and sustainable development, funded by FP7)

12:00 Final plenary debate

12:30 End of the workshop & buffet lunch