



EU Sustainable Development

**Presentation to the European Sustainable
Development Network
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Background

- Europe 2020: smart, sustainable inclusive growth
 - 5 headline indicators and 7 flagship initiatives
 - Annual Growth Survey and National Reform Programmes =
 - European Semester
- Environment Council of December 2012
 - **Commission declaration on review of sustainable development**
 - **Review of relevant national policies?**
- What has been done for sustainable development in 2011/12?
- What are the sustainable development priorities for 2013/14?

Key actions in 2011/12

- Road maps 2050 for climate and energy and Transport White Paper
- Resource efficiency roadmap and associated actions
- 7th Environmental Action Programme
- Biodiversity Action Plan 2020/2050
- Blueprint for Europe Waters
- CO₂ targets for light duty vehicles up to 2020
- Targets for alternative fuels for clean transport
- Proposals for Energy Savings and Energy Taxation (with climate component)
- Proposal to revise Environmental Impact Assessment Directive
- Eco-design measures for energy relevant products
- Proposal to enhance biofuels' sustainability (ILUC)
- Proposal to revise the Tobacco Products Directive
- Rethinking skills and education
- Youth Employment Package (COM(2012)727)
- **A Budget for Europe 2020 – MFF proposal for 2014-2020**
- **European Semester 2012**
- **Communication on Rio+20**

Priorities for 2013/2014

- ***Social Investment for Growth &***
- ***Preparing to implement the 2014-20 budget***
- ***European Semester 2013***
- ***Follow up to Rio+20: MDGs and SDGs***
- ***Framework for climate and energy policies to 2030***

- Communication: single market for green products/ environmental foot-prints
- Climate Adaptation Strategy
- Review of air quality policies (ozone and particulate matter!)
- Forest Action Plan
- Sustainable exploitation of unconventional hydrocarbons
- Review of waste targets and fitness check of waste stream legislation
- Urban mobility
- Strategy to reduce serious road injuries

Social Investment for Growth and Cohesion COM(2013)83

- Policy framework, concrete actions, EU funds
 - ❖ **Investing in children**
 - ❖ **Demographic and social trends**
 - ❖ **Active inclusion**
 - ❖ **Social Services of General Interest**
 - ❖ **Long term care**
 - ❖ **Confronting homelessness**
 - ❖ **Investing in health**
 - ❖ **Role of the European Social Fund**



Budget 2014-20

- Commission proposals
 - **Mainstream environment and climate - 20% of total budget**
 - **ESIF Regulation articles 8, 14 ..**
 - **Green CAP – ecological focus areas (7%), permanent grassland, crop diversification**
 - **Common Fisheries Policy – ban on discards, maximum sustainable yields for all fisheries by 2015, no subsidies for boat modernisation**
 - **Reinforced LIFE instrument**
 - **Horizon 2020 – 60% of budget related to sustainable development**
 - **Development co-operation – biodiversity and ecosystems as "global public goods"**
- Reaction by other institutions and Member States
 - **Will this degree of ambition be maintained?**
- Key issue in 2013 is **Partnership Agreements** for the ESIF
- What role can the ESDN play?

European Semester 2013

- Annual Growth Survey for 2013
 - **A 'different quality of growth' for a 'prosperous, inclusive and resource efficient future'**
 - **Improving employability particularly of young people**
 - **Promoting social exclusion and tackling poverty**
 - **Shift from labour to environmental/consumption taxes**
 - **Tapping the potential of the green economy**
 - More ambitious energy efficiency programmes
 - Improved waste management, water management and recycling
 - Job potential of expanding sectors: green economy, healthcare and ICT
- Key issue: National Reform Programmes April 2013
- Role of the ESDN?

Rio+20 follow-up

- Communication next week
- Follow-up through the Europe 2020 strategy
- EU position – overarching framework post 2015
- SDG and MDG - integrated into single process
- Indication of key actions

Climate and Energy to 2030

- Green Paper consultation
 - **April to June 2013**
- Key issues:
 - **Targets: which? coherence? ambition?**
 - **Competitiveness**
 - **Effort sharing**
- Contribution of the ESDN?

Conclusions and future actions

- Sustainable development firmly anchored in EU policy framework
- Commission has proposed or is planning a vast array of measures to improve sustainability which need support to have an effect.
- Key challenges 2013/14 – Budget/Semester/Rio+20/C & E 2030
- Stakeholders should contribute to these processes to ensure that Commission's approach to sustainability is upheld and to
- Review of Europe 2020: smart, sustainable, inclusive growth