EU Sustainable Development

Presentation to the European Sustainable Development Network
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Unit D2 “Internal market and sustainability”
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
- CO\textsubscript{2} 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