

# Green Growth, Green Jobs: Integrating Environmental and Employment Policies in the EU



**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015**

Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre,  
Brussels



# Green Growth, Green Jobs: Integrating Environmental and Employment Policies in the EU

## Overview

'Green jobs' are quickly redefining traditional job roles and simultaneously creating new professions in a wide range of sectors such as construction, transport, energy supply, engineering and science. In particular, they have emerged as a response to global challenges linked to environmental protection, economic development and social inclusion.

The 'Environmental Goods and Services Sector' (EGSS) represents approximately 2% of total EU employment. It continues to grow across the EU, despite the current economic crisis. In addition, the European Commission's 'Employment Package' (April 2012) identified the green economy as a key source of job creation and estimated that it could create 20 million new jobs by 2020.

According to the EU's growth strategy ('Europe 2020'), one of the key ongoing structural transformations to achieve 'smart, inclusive and sustainable' growth is the transition towards a green, low-carbon and resource-efficient economy. To this end, the 'Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe' (September 2011), which is part of the Resource Efficiency Flagship of the Europe 2020 Strategy, proposes ways to increase resource productivity and decouple economic growth from resource use and its environmental impact by 2050.

In its effort to meet this aim and to tackle the unprecedented unemployment rates, the EU has a pivotal role to play in fostering skills suitable for 'green jobs', promoting mobility and supporting industrial restructuring, in close cooperation with the social partners and the businesses.

To achieve this, the integration of environmental and employment policies represents a great challenge for the 'Europe 2020' Strategy.

In July 2014, the Commission published the 'Green Employment Initiative' Communication, in order to underpin the employment challenges and opportunities towards the transition to the model of a 'green economy'. This communication complemented the ones on the 'Circular Economy' and on a 'Green Action Plan for SMEs', and presented an integrated framework for employment and labour market policies at EU and national levels, highlighting the significance of:

- Securing labour market transitions
- Anticipating and establishing adequate skills policies to assist workers to adapt to structural changes
- Making governance and partnership-based initiatives stronger

This timely international symposium provides an invaluable opportunity for delegates to examine the future of green growth in Europe by focusing on its economic, social and financial aspects. Delegates will explore how future skills-needs can be better anticipated to suit the market and how the green economy can be boosted by investing in green technologies and eco-innovation.

**“ The shift to a green and resource efficient economy is above all an opportunity to increase European global competitiveness and create sustainable and high quality jobs. The Green Employment initiative will help ensure that environmental and employment policies converge and play an active role in supporting this process.”**

- European Commissioner for the Environment, July 2014

## Venue and Accommodation

**Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre**  
Avenue du Boulevard 17  
1210 Brussels  
Belgium



## Why Attend?

- ✓ **Assess the latest policy developments and EU initiatives in the 'green sector'**
- ✓ **Consider the future of green jobs across the EU and explore green growth opportunities across Member States**
- ✓ **Evaluate the impact of green growth on employment and the creation of new jobs and skills in line with green technologies**
- ✓ **Explore opportunities for investments and funding to promote green entrepreneurship in Europe and review eco-innovation projects**
- ✓ **Share best practices on the promotion of green jobs and professional training**

## Who Should Attend?

- Small Business Federations
- Chambers of Commerce
- Social Funds
- Environmental Associations
- Local Authorities
- Training Managers
- Recruitment Advisers
- Organisational Development Professionals
- Institutes for Occupational Health
- Institutes for Training and Employment
- Trade Unions
- Employers' Associations
- International and Regional Organisations
- National Ministries and Institutes
- Joint Committees on Environment
- Social Exclusion Officers
- Confederations of Independent Unions
- Local Area Trailblazers
- Regional Development and Natural Environment Specialists
- Local Authority Green City Teams
- Local Authority Waste and Recycling Professionals
- Local Authority Waterways Professionals
- Relevant Central Government Departments
- Sustainable Development Stakeholders
- Transport Leads
- Sustainable Tourism Professionals
- Directors and Heads of Parks and Public Spaces
- Environmental Services and Policy Professionals
- Environmental Services Sustainability Professionals
- Environmental Services Urban Design Professionals
- Environmental Planning and Design Officers
- Conservation Professionals
- Environmental Campaigns Professionals
- Environmental Enforcement Professionals
- Housing Authorities and Professionals
- Farmers and Fairtrade Stakeholders
- Farming Organisations
- Rural Organisations
- Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Professionals
- Agricultural Research Professionals
- Energy Leads
- Biodiversity Leads
- Renewable Leads
- Horticultural Managers
- Energy Efficiency Professionals
- Green Education Professionals
- Schools and Education Stakeholders (including LEAs)
- Schools Connecting with Nature
- Regeneration Professionals
- Pollution Professionals
- Private Sector Environmental Organisations
- Business Development Professionals
- Finance Leads
- Greening Retail Organisations
- Greening Industry Professionals
- Third Sector Organisations

# Green Growth, Green Jobs: Integrating Environmental and Employment Policies in the EU

## Programme

09:15	Registration and Morning Refreshments
10:00	Chair's Welcome and Opening Remarks
10:10	<b>Developing 'Green Growth' and 'Green Jobs' in a Challenging European Economy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Defining 'Green Growth' and 'Green Collars' in the EU Job Market: Latest Trends in the Environmental Goods and Services Sector (EGSS)</li><li>• Securing the Right Policy Environment for Green Growth – Assessing the Latest Policy Initiatives towards a Greener Economy</li><li>• Examining Existing Strategies for Green Growth at a National and EU Level: towards an Integrated Approach</li><li>• Sharing Best Practice on Green Growth Policies and Identifying Lessons Learnt</li></ul>
10:40	<b>First Round of Discussions</b>
11:10	Morning Coffee Break
11:30	<b>Providing Training and Education for the Green Economy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Training Professionals to Meet Existing and Anticipated Labour Market Needs, Providing Training in Latest Green Technologies</li><li>• Assessing the Contribution of Flexible Local and Regional Employment and Training Systems to Promoting Job Creation in the Green Sector</li><li>• Recommendations for Future Actions</li></ul>
12:00	<b>Second Round of Discussions</b>
12:30	Networking Lunch
13:30	<b>Stimulating Investments in the Green Economy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Accessing EU Funds - Addressing Regulatory and Financial Barriers to Green Growth</li><li>• Supporting and Funding the Transition – The Significance of Public and Private Investments within the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020</li><li>• Exploiting Business Opportunities for SMEs - the Green Action Plan for SMEs</li><li>• Discussing the Next Steps for Green Investment and Other Entrepreneurial Initiatives in the Green Sector</li></ul>
14:00	<b>Third Round of Discussions</b>
14:30	Afternoon Coffee Break
14:50	<b>Advancing Eco-Innovation in Europe</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Eco-Innovation and Job Creation – How can Eco-Innovation Contribute to Employment and to a More Sustainable Production System?</li><li>• Making the EU industry Competitive through Eco-innovation</li><li>• Associating Job Transformation with Environmental Initiatives</li><li>• Exchange of Best Practices in Eco-design and Eco-Innovation across Europe</li></ul>
15:20	<b>Fourth Round of Discussions</b>
15:50	Chair's Summary and Closing Comments
16:00	Networking Reception
16:30	Close

*\*\*Please note that the programme is subject to change without notice\*\**

## Marketing and Exhibition Opportunities

We offer a range of opportunities to enable your organisation to raise its profile and communicate with key decision makers in the public sector.

For further information please contact us on **+44 (0) 20 3137 8630**  
or email [info@publicpolicyexchange.co.uk](mailto:info@publicpolicyexchange.co.uk)

## Event Details

**Date:** Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015  
**Time:** 10:00am – 4:30pm  
**Venue:** Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre, Brussels



## Speakers Include:

- ✓ **Dr Paulo Lemos**, Secretary of State for Environment, Portuguese Government
- ✓ **Madi Sharma**, Group I - Employers - UK, European Economic and Social Committee
- ✓ **Martin Siecker**, Member, European Economic and Social Committee
- ✓ **Dr Wolfgang Müller**, Member of the Board of the European Network of Public Employment Services, Managing Director European Affairs of the German Public Employment Service
- ✓ **Philippe Adriaenssens**, Advisor, International Affairs, EUROCHAMBRES
- ✓ **Holger Haubold**, Fiscal and Economic Policy Officer, ECF asbl
- ✓ **Femke Groothuis**, President, Ex'Tax

## Forthcoming Events

- ✓ Strengthening Data Protection Standards in Europe: Towards a Harmonised European Digital Market  
*18th June 2015*
- ✓ Improving Young People's Mental Health in Europe: Transforming Lives, Strengthening Prevention  
*23rd June 2015*
- ✓ Cross-Border Healthcare in Europe: Promoting Equal Access to Quality Care  
*1st July 2015*
- ✓ Driving Forward Gender Equality in Europe: Combating Discrimination in the Workplace and Beyond  
*2nd July 2015*