

Europe's Climate Change Response

Adaption and Migitation in an Uncertain World



Wednesday 5th July 2017

Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre,
Brussels



Europe's Climate Change Response: Adaption and Mitigation in an Uncertain World

Overview

Climate change poses one of the greatest anthropogenic threats to modern life across the globe. The risks include biodiversity loss, ocean acidification, meteorological extremes, instability of global food systems, floods, droughts, and the irreversible modification of our living environment. Despite Europe's rhetorical commitment to fighting climate change, the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) estimates that surface temperatures are projected to rise over the 21st century under all assessed emission scenarios. Furthermore, the European Environment Agency estimates that the total reported economic damage caused by climate-related extremes in Europe over the last four decades is close to 400 billion Euros. Thus, mitigating climate change is now a political and economic necessity, despite a recent rise of climate-sceptic governance and severe disagreement on how the costs of mitigation will be distributed. It is imperative that the EU steps up with ambitious targets and becomes a world leader in an inclusive energy transition.

In 2014 the European Commission introduced the 2030 Climate and Energy Package, setting out three key targets; a 40% cut in greenhouse gas emissions, a 27% target for renewable energy use, and a 27% increase in energy efficiency. Forthcoming legislative changes also include modifications to the EU-ETS (Emissions Trading System), and the Effort Sharing Regulation. These efforts underpin ambitions for a low carbon economy by 2050, with the EU aiming to cut greenhouse gas emissions to 80% below 1990 levels. However, the Commission calculates that the realisation of this objective would require a projected additional investment of €270 billion.

There is no silver bullet in climate policy, and Europe takes a multi-dimensional approach to tackling the issue. At the global level, the Paris Agreement, signed by 195 nations, came into force in November 2016, aiming to limit further temperature increases to 1.5 degrees Celsius. With the stakes so high, many outstanding challenges remain, such as guaranteeing a successful transition to low-carbon technologies, ensuring clean, secure, renewable energy supplies, and delivering change in a cost efficient and timely manner. Such legislative changes will impact businesses, corporations, consumers and civil society alike, demonstrating the need for clear and effective dialogue.

This international symposium will provide delegates with an invaluable opportunity to assess Europe's approach to tackling climate change and discuss possible pathways for innovation, adaption and mitigation. The event will also enable delegates to share best practice and knowledge on strategies for an inclusive and socially responsible transition to clean energy sources. The conference will support the exchange of ideas and encourage delegates to engage in thought-provoking topical debate.

"Fighting Climate Change is not a choice for today's politicians, it is a necessity (and a responsibility). It is not a question of "if", but of "how". It's not a question of putting my country or your country first. It's a question of putting the planet first – we need to make the Paris Agreement a reality, for the sake of the generations to come."

- Miguel Arias Cañete, EU Energy & Climate Action Commissioner

European Commission

March 2017

Venue and Accommodation

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



Why Attend?

- ✓ Analyse the EU's current approach to fighting climate change, and progress made towards 2030 targets
- ✓ Explore possible innovative solutions and mechanisms for businesses to limit GHG emissions
- ✓ Share up-to-date knowledge of climate mitigation and adaption strategies and the role of climate finance in fostering transitions to low-carbon technology
- ✓ Share best practices and exchange ideas on managing aviation emissions and the functioning of market based mechanisms to address climate change
- ✓ Gain knowledge and insights on the future Clean Energy Package and the state of the Energy Union
- ✓ Take part in lively and interactive discussions with key stakeholders in the field of climate and environmental policy
- ✓ Assess how to pre-empt and collaboratively address emerging risks
- ✓ Build partnerships for cross border collaboration in the field of climate adaption

Who Should Attend?

- Environmental Associations
- Climate Change Experts
- Local Authorities
- Organisational Development Professionals
- 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
- GreenCity Teams
- Local Authority Waste and Recycling Professionals
- Local Authority Waterways Professionals
- 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
- Energy Leads
- Biodiversity Leads
- Renewable Energy Leads
- Energy Efficiency Professionals
- Climate Change Experts

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Programme

09:15	Registration and Morning Refreshments
10:00	Chair's Welcome and Opening Remarks
10:10	Strengthening the EU Policy Framework on Climate Change: Developments and Ways Forward <ul style="list-style-type: none">Analysing Europe's 2030 Climate and Energy Policy FrameworkActions in 2017 for Maintaining Europe's Paris Agreement CommitmentsLessons from Morocco: UNFCCC COP 22 OutcomesThe Next Steps for Successful Adaption and Mitigation in Europe
10:40	First Round of Discussions
11:10	Morning Coffee Break
11:30	Tackling Carbon Emissions: Guaranteeing Adequate Reform of the European Emissions Trading System <ul style="list-style-type: none">Carbon Markets: Subsidies and the Current State of PlaySecuring Correct Supply and Demand for Pollution AllowancesThe Future of Aviation in the EU: Ensuring 2030 Targets are MetBalancing Climate Change Commitments with Economic Development
12:00	Second Round of Discussions
12:30	Networking Lunch
13:30	A New Energy Framework: Next Steps for the Clean Energy Package and the Energy Union <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Renewable Energy Revolution: Reducing Fossil Fuel DependencyEnergy Security in Europe in an Uncertain Geopolitical EnvironmentProtecting Consumers and Fostering Alternative Energy SuppliesProgress on the Clean Energy Package and the Energy Union
14:00	Third Round of Discussions
14:30	Afternoon Coffee Break
14:50	Fostering Innovation for a Low Carbon Transition: Climate Financing and Low-Carbon Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none">Channelling Climate Finance to Innovative Projects, Research and DevelopmentFuture Prospects for Market Based Mechanisms for Climate MitigationReaching Transitory Tipping Points: the Case of the Solar IndustryManaging Emerging Risks and Sharing Best Practice
15:20	Fourth Round of Discussions
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 *

Event Details

Date: Wednesday 5th July 2017
Time: 10:00am – 4:30pm
Venue: Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre, Brussels



Speakers Include:

Forthcoming Events

✓ Mental Health in Europe: Promoting Equal Opportunities and Social Participation
12th April 2017

✓ E-Skills and Jobs in the Digital Age: Accelerating Europe's Competitiveness and Inclusive Growth
10th May 2017

✓ 7th Annual International Symposium on Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling
17th May 2017

✓ The Future of Tourism in Europe: Promoting Competitiveness Through Sustainability and Digitisation
30th May 2017

✓ Strengthening Youth Employment in the EU: Ensuring Bright Futures for the Young Generation
1st June 2017

Reforming European VAT: Boosting Trade and Achieving Modernisation
8th June 2017

✓ The 9th Annual International Symposium on University Rankings and Quality Assurance 2017
22nd June 2017


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