Rio+20 and its implications for Sustainable Development Policy at the EU and national level

European Sustainable Development Network (ESDN)
in cooperation with the Danish EU Presidency

ESDN Conference 2012

28-29 June 2012 in Copenhagen, Denmark

Conference Programme

Venue:
Mogens Dahl Koncertsal
Snorresgade 22, 2300 Copenhagen, Denmark
Wednesday, 27 June 2012

15:00 – 18:00  RESPONDER Workshop on linking sustainable consumption and growth debates – for interested policy-makers
(RESPONDER is a research project, funded under FP7, and closely related to ESDN)
Danish Ministry of the Environment, Børsgade 4, Copenhagen

18:00 – 19:30  ESDN Steering Group – internal meeting
Danish Ministry of the Environment, Børsgade 4, Copenhagen

19:30  Welcome Reception for conference participants: Celebrating 10 years of ESDN
Danish Ministry of Environment, Børsgade 4, Copenhagen

Welcome addresses by
- Søren Søndergaard Kjær, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Danish Ministry of the Environment
- Jacqueline McGlade, Executive Director, European Environment Agency
- Elisabeth Freytag & Wolfram Tertschnig, ESDN Co-chairs

Conference moderator: Peter Woodward (Quest Associates, UK)

Thursday, 28 June 2012

08:30  Registration

09:00 – 09:30  Introduction

09:00  Welcome address
Søren Søndergaard Kjær, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Danish Ministry of the Environment

09:15  Objectives of the Conference
Elisabeth Freytag & Wolfram Tertschnig, ESDN Co-chairs, Austrian Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session 1: 20 years of UNCSD and growing socio-economic challenges in Europe</th>
<th>Session 2: Rio+20 results and their implications</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>09:30</strong></td>
<td>From Rio to Rio+20 – The ongoing challenge of integrating the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in Europe</td>
<td>Overview on results of Rio+20 – UN Conference on Sustainable Development: Green Economy, Institutional Framework and renewing commitment for SD, SG Goals</td>
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<td><strong>09:50</strong></td>
<td>Euro/debt crises, growing imbalances and social ruptures in Europe – a critical perspective in the context of sustainable development</td>
<td>Implications of Rio+20 results – perspectives from stakeholder involvement and SD councils</td>
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<td><strong>10:10</strong></td>
<td>Q&amp;A Session</td>
<td>11:50 Implications of Rio+20 results – perspectives from the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)</td>
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<td><strong>10:45 – 11:15</strong></td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
<td>12:05 Plenary discussion: Implications of the Rio+20 results in times of socio-economic challenges and current crises</td>
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<td><strong>11:15 – 13:00</strong></td>
<td><strong>Session 2</strong>: Rio+20 results and their implications</td>
<td>13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>11:15</strong></td>
<td>Overview on results of Rio+20 – UN Conference on Sustainable Development: Green Economy, Institutional Framework and renewing commitment for SD, SG Goals</td>
<td>14:00 Break-out session: Eurostat’s Rio+20 Guidebook “Figures for the Future”</td>
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<td><strong>11:35</strong></td>
<td>Implications of Rio+20 results – perspectives from stakeholder involvement and SD councils</td>
<td>Richard Adams, EESC Member and Vice-President of the Sustainable Development Observatory</td>
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<td><strong>11:50</strong></td>
<td>Implications of Rio+20 results – perspectives from the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)</td>
<td>Markus Hametner, Vienna University of Economics and Business &amp; Viktoria Bolla, Eurostat</td>
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14:30 – 18:30  **Session 3: Working groups – in-depth discussion of Rio+20 results & current crises and their implications for SD**

14:30  **Introduction of session objectives and working group format**

*Conference moderator*

14:45  **Working Group discussions:**

*In-depth discussion of Rio+20 results, the current crises and their implication for SD in Europe*

*Parallel working groups on three topics:*

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<tr>
<th>Working Group 1</th>
<th>Working Group 2</th>
<th>Working Group 3</th>
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| **Rio+20 results on Green Economy**  
Flashlight presentation:  
Chris Vanden Bilcke (UNEP)  
- Links between the concepts of Green Economy and SD (similarities, differences, etc.)  
- Role of different stakeholders in Green Economy (UN, EU, Member States, businesses, academia, NGO, etc.)  
- Relationship between SD strategies and Green Economy strategies | **Institutional reforms and SD governance after Rio+20**  
Flashlight presentation:  
William M. Lafferty (ProSus)  
- Implications for SD governance in general (political commitment, policy coherence, participation, etc.)  
- Cooperation between the EU and its Member States on SD strategy processes (EU SDS/NSDSs)  
- SD Goals: elaboration process, specification of objectives, indicators/monitoring | **Euro, debt crises and their implications for SD in Europe**  
Flashlight presentation:  
Stephan Schulmeister (WIFO)  
- Current crises and what they imply for SD  
- Social and economic imbalances, social challenges – what solutions can SD offer?  
- How to best address the relationship between financial markets and SD? |

16:15 – 16:45  **Coffee break**

16:45  **Presentation of the Working Group results**

*Rapporteurs from each Working Group*

17:15  **Panel discussion: Implications of Rio+20 results – including issues such as political commitment, policy integration, institutional challenges, participation, evaluation/monitoring**

*Discussants:*

- Chris Vanden Bilcke, Head of the UNEP Liaison Office to the EU
- Henrik Hagen Olesen, Chief Adviser, Danish Ministry of the Environment
- Wolfram Tertschnig, ESDN co-chair

*Incl. plenary discussion*
| 18:15 – 18:30 | Project update and results: Sustainable consumption in Europe - RESPONDER and CORPUS & their link to the ESDN  
André Martinuzzi & Gerald Berger (ESDN Office & Research Institute for Managing Sustainability, Vienna University of Economics and Business) |
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<td>18:30</td>
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| 19:00 – 22:00 | Evening Programme & Conference Dinner  
19:00 Tour of the Copenhagen harbour and canals (departing from Islands Brygge)  
20:15 Conference Dinner at Mogens Dahl Koncertsal (conference venue) |
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<td>09:30 – 10:30</td>
<td><strong>Session 4: Rio+20 and its implications: Future needs and challenges</strong></td>
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| 09:30      | After Rio+20: Future needs and remaining challenges – Perspectives on SD for the next generations  
*Alan AtKisson, International Policy Advisor, AtKisson Group Stockholm* |
| 09:50      | Q & A Session                                                                              |
| 10:00      | Future challenges after the Rio+20 Conference                                                
*Ida Auken, Danish Minister for the Environment*                                        |
| 10:20      | Q & A Session                                                                              |
| 10:30      | Future needs and challenges for sustainable development at the EU and national level in the context of Rio+20  
*Interactive format*                                                                    |
| 11:30 – 11:45 | **Coffee break**                                                                         |
| 11:45 – 13:00 | **Session 5: Recommendations for implementing Rio+20 results**                           |
| 11:45      | Final panel discussion: Recommendations for implementing Rio+20 on the ground & implications for SD policy  
- *Elisabeth Freytag, ESDN Co-chair*  
- *Evelina Stamouli & Angeliki Boura, representatives of the incoming Cyprus EU Presidency*  
*Incl. plenary discussion*                                                             |
| 12:30      | ESDN Conference 2012: Emerging issues, expected challenges and further steps to be taken by the ESDN  
*ESDN Steering Group & plenary discussion*                                            |
| 13:00      | Conference Closure, followed by buffet lunch                                               |