



**European
Partners for the
Environment**

INVITATION

Roundtable The 2030 Agenda and the new EU Narrative

An initiative of the European Partners for the Environment (EPE) the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), the Regional Environment Centre, with the Comité 21 France, the Club France Développement Durable, the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (ASviS)

**19th January 2017 from 09:15 to 13:00
IUCN, 64 Boulevard Louis Schmidt
1040 Brussels**

« We committed in Bratislava to offer to our citizens in the upcoming months a vision of an attractive EU they can trust and support. ». EU Council Informal Meeting. Bratislava Roadmap. September 2016.

The Brussels roundtable will identify who is preparing or would be willing to contribute to the drafting of a proposed « new narrative for Europe » to be presented in Rome at the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome on the basis of the 2030 Agenda 'Transforming our World' adopted by the United Nations in 2015 and which has been defined as "an agenda of the people, by the people and for the people " with a special attention to ' Ensure that no one is left behind . "

Today is the time for a *metamorphosis* of Europe to face the challenges of the XXIst century inside and outside Europe. It is building a new *software* for a '*transformative cooperation*' intended to better manage our interdependence between Europeans and between Europeans and our neighbors and their neighbors, on a planet of profound change. The Brussels roundtable intends to present an overview of how much "the new world is already there" and who are the European Champions, game changers involved in partnerships for SDGs implementation.

As the Commission states: « *The development landscape is expanding, encompassing more and new actors and innovative solutions. The private sector is increasingly a key partner in fostering more sustainable models of development. Combining public and private resources to leverage more investments is allowing to step up engagement, also in challenging environments. A realignment of global resources and investment is needed to achieve sustainable development. Information and communications technology, as well as resilient and efficient infrastructure networks, offer major opportunities for progress across sectors. »*

The new EU narrative proposal to be debated will start from proposals presenting a vision which could be supported by the Business and Finance Green Leaders and to be submitted as such to the EU Heads of States and Governments. The 2016 election of D. Trump and the Brexit are marking the beginning of a new era, a time where, the USA having elected as President a Businessman having himself nominated a cabinet dominated by businessman, the business community supporting the SDGs and the Climate agenda will need to be much more vocal in the USA as well as at the level of the EU Heads of States and Governments.

The new EU narrative should also be a strong message to citizens. Rob Hopkins, Transition Movement, stated: « *We need to oppose an epidemic loneliness and re-create an optimistic mood in society. Implementation of SDGs is about re-connecting people* »

Roundtable Programme

09:00 Coffee

09:15 Welcome by Tom Vereijken, EPE Executive Director

09:30- 11:00 **The new EU Narrative and the 2030 Agenda**
Debate facilitated by Ms. Céline Charveriat, IEEP Executive Director

Themes

- Leading business proposals for a new EU narrative based on the 2030 Agenda.
- "No one should be left behind".
- "Systemic and transformational changes" involving non-State Actors.
- Follow up process. Working groups. WG1. Draft Declaration Business.

Break

11:30-13:00 **Sustainability European Champions meeting in Rome**
Debate facilitated by Prof. Enrico Giovannini, Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (ASviS).

Themes

- Agenda of the Rome Roundtable
- Identification and invitation of European Champions
- Presentation of their success stories
- Presentation of the new EU narrative build upon the 2030 Agenda.
- Address to the Rome EU Heads of States and Governments meeting
- Follow-up process

Conclusions by:

- Ms Marta Bonifert, REC.
- Ms. Céline Charveriat, IEEP Executive Director.
- Ms. Bettina Laville, President Comité 21 France., EPE Board Member.
- Mr Gilles Berhault, President Club France Développement Durable, EPE Vice-President.
- Prof. Enrico Giovannini, Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (ASviS).
- Mr. Robin Edme, EPE President.