



Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Sustainability and Tourism



ORGANIZER

Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism, Stubenring 1, 1010 Wien, www.bmnt.gv.at
EU-Umweltbüro, Strozsigasse 10/8-9, 1080 Wien, www.eu-umweltbuero.at

REGISTRATION

We ask you for binding registration on the following Online form: <https://bit.ly/2ZIIAAO>

VENUE

Haus der EU, Wipplinger Straße 35, 1010 Wien

ARRIVAL & ACCESSIBILITY

We ask all participants for CO₂ neutral arrival
by public transport: www.wienerlinien.at

DETAILS OF THE EVENT

Bernhard Zlanabitnig, E: bernhard.zlanabitnig@eu-umweltbuero.at, T: 01/401 13-38
Daniela Verdel, E: daniela.verdel@eu-umweltbuero.at, T: 01/401 13-33
Details of the event: www.eu-umweltbuero.at

IN COOPERATION WITH:

The United Nations Information Service (UNIS) Vienna

The exhibition "40 years of the Vienna International Centre" was produced by the City of Vienna with inputs from the Vienna-based organizations and the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It provides an overview of the history of the UN headquarters in Vienna, Austria's contributions to the UN (including UN peacekeeping) and the work that has been done by the Vienna-based organizations in and from Vienna around the world, with a special focus on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. It also shows practical examples on how the City of Vienna is implementing the SDGs at local level.

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SDG CONFERENCE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGENDA 2030 BY AND ACROSS EUROPE – LOSING MOMENTUM OR GAINING TRACTION?

invitation

27 JUNE 2019, 2 pm – 6 pm

Haus der EU, Vienna

Register now!

Agenda 2030 of the United Nations provides a new global framework for sustainable development, specifically enumerating 17 goals collectively called the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Having been adopted by the heads of states and governments in 2015, its success requires the initiative and individual efforts of each state to, depending on its capabilities and capacities, achieve these 17 goals. The EU was one of the driving forces behind the adoption of Agenda 2030 and is fully committed to its implementation. Austria has also pledged its full support and has adopted a "mainstreaming" approach to implementing the SDGs nationally, which means that its relevant ministries will take actions and measures in their respective areas of responsibility. At the annual "High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development" (HLPF), UN member states can report on their progress in SDG implementation by means of so-called "Voluntary National Reviews" (VNR). Austria will do this for the first time in exactly one year – in July 2020 – in New York.

In February, the European Parliament commissioned a study entitled "Europe's approach to implementing the Sustainable Development Goals: good practices and the way forward," which takes a closer look at the implementations done by the member states. It examines and compares, for the first time, the national governance structures that the EU member states had created for the implementation of the SDGs. The study also provides an overview of developments at EU level in terms of sustainable development and focuses in particular on the role of national parliaments in implementing Agenda 2030.

Furthermore, on 30 January the EU Commission released a reflection paper in which it presented three future scenarios on how the EU could implement the topic of sustainable development by 2030. These scenarios – creating a comprehensive sustainability strategy, mainstreaming the SDGs in all important EU policy areas, or focusing only on external EU policy areas – were developed with the involvement of relevant European stakeholders (including the so-called multi-stakeholder platform). Eventually, two publications that also reflect on the Agenda 2030 – the white paper on the future of Europe and the way forward and the European Commission's contribution to the informal EU27 leaders' meeting were discussed at the European Council in Sibiu on May 9.

Panel 1 looks at the national level at concrete implementation efforts based on best practice examples from Germany and Romania. Austrian approaches to mainstreaming and the Environmental Ministry's Action Plan 2019+ will be presented. How is Austria preparing for next year's spotlight in New York? How will stakeholders be involved in reporting?

Panel 2 examines the European perspective and tries to answer the question of whether a European sustainability strategy is needed – and if so, how it should be structured, what the objectives, concrete measures, and timeline should be, and whether the Sibiu Council was a mandate to the new EU Commission to swiftly implement such a strategy. Will the new President of the EU Commission be primarily responsible for implementation? Will such a strategy subordinate all of the other EU environmental policies such as the transition to a closed-loop economy, the pursuit of climate neutrality, the protection of biodiversity and ecosystems, the fight against climate change, and the sustainability of agriculture and the food system? What about ensuring active stakeholder participation?

2 pm PANEL 1 – NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATIONS

Presentation Study "Europe's approach to implementing the Sustainable Development Goals: good practices and the way forward"

● Christian MESETH, European Parliament Development Committee (DEVE)

Presentation SDG-Action Plan 2019+ "Promoting sustainability and shaping the future"

● Birgit Andrea HORVATH, Dept. of Sustainable Development and Natural Resources, Austrian Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism

Best practice Germany

● Marie-Louise VON MÜNCHHAUSEN, Dept. of Sustainable Development, Federal Chancellery

Best practice Romania

● László BORBÉLY, Dept. of Sustainable Development, Government of Romania

Integration of civil society into the Voluntary National Review process for the High Level Political Forum 2020

● Erika BERNHARD, Dept. Development cooperation within the framework of the European Union and the United Nations, Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs

Moderation: Bernhard ZLANABITNIG, SDG Watch Austria

4:00 – 4:30 pm BREAK

4.30 pm PANEL 2 – EUROPE

Presentation Reflection Paper „Towards a sustainable Europe by 2030“

● Florentine HOPMEIER, Kabinett Jyrki Katainen, European Commission

From the Multi-Stakeholder Platform recommendations to reality at EU level

● Raphael WEYLAND, NABU – BirdLife Europe

The new European Parliament as driving force for a Sustainable Development Strategy?

● Anna CAVAZZINI, MEP of the European Green Party EGP

Implementation of the Agenda 2030 from the science perspective

● Sigrid STAGL, Institute of Ecological Economics, Vienna University of Economics and Business

Moderation: Katy SHIELDS, Sustainable Europe Research Institute (SERI)

6:00 pm END OF THE EVENT & NETWORKING

About the Agenda 2030 and the SDGs:

On 1 January 2016, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development officially came into force. Until 2030, with these new Goals that universally apply to all, countries will mobilize efforts to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change, while ensuring that no one is left behind.

The SDGs build on the success of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and aim to go further taking into account all three dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, social and environmental dimensions. The new Goals are unique in that they call for action by all countries, poor, rich and middle-income to promote prosperity while protecting the planet. They recognize that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that build economic growth and addresses a range of social needs including education, health, social protection, and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection.