

META



EEB
European
Environmental
Bureau

ONE YEAR IN

Assessing the EU Green Deal

CHEMICAL CONTROL

Hope for a toxic-free future

BURNING GAS

Heating matters



The European Green Deal has so far weathered the coronavirus storm.

But can it help the EU shift its focus from economic growth to human wellbeing within planetary limits?

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From the ashes of a pandemic to an ever greener deal



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Images: Top: Tree growth in a burnt forest. Sompong tom (adobe.stock.com). Bottom: Meadow. Gemma Bowcock (EEB).

EDITORIAL**2020: A green odyssey**

This has been a remarkable year. Before it began, we expected 2020 to be a make or break year for the environment and climate, not to mention for the Sustainable Development Goals.

Then COVID-19 came along and changed everything. The pandemic not only presented humanity with a global health crisis unseen in a century, it also triggered the gravest economic crisis the world has experienced since the 1929 Wall Street crash.

More profoundly, COVID-19 cast a harsh light on the damage we have inflicted on the natural world and exposed the underlying conditions and vulnerabilities afflicting our economies.

For that reason, it is encouraging to see that the coronavirus crisis has not derailed the European Green Deal, despite the efforts of certain lobbies and vested interests.

Instead, what we have seen is that the Green Deal has been promoted by many as the guiding framework for the EU's post-pandemic recovery efforts.

Nevertheless, it has not all been plain sailing. Despite talking the talk, the EU has not completely walked the walk. It has failed on a number of fronts, such as in relation to the reform of the nature-destroying Common Agricultural Policy or the insufficiently ambitious targets for emission cuts by 2030. That is why we must be vigilant of every policy development.

We must gauge, as 'doughnut' economist Kate Raworth told our annual conference, when the European Green Deal is being harnessed, and when it is being hijacked.

And our annual conference proved to be just such an opportunity to take stock of progress. At the gathering, civil society was able to scrutinise the words and record of policymakers and policymakers got the chance to explain their positions and actions.

In this special edition of Meta, we bring the highlights of this year's EEB conference, put the spotlight on some of the most pressing issues of 2020 and highlight some of our campaigns. We also look forward to what 2021 has in store for the environment.


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The Doughnut economic model developed and explained to conference attendees by Kate Raworth.



From dough to doughnuts: Charting Europe's post-pandemic future

High-profile speakers at the 2020 EEB annual conference included Kate Raworth, the founder of 'doughnut economics', European Environment Commissioner Virginijus Sinkevičius and Austrian Climate Action and Environment Minister Leonore Gewessler. The main message from the one-day event was that the European Union needs to shift from a focus on the dough of economic growth to the doughnut of wellbeing within planetary limits. Khaled Diab writes.

The opening keynote speaker at this year's annual conference was Kate Raworth, the economist behind the 'Doughnut of Social and Planetary Boundaries', which visually represents a framework for sustainable development that does not overshoot the Earth's natural limits (see diagram).

Raworth spoke on the theme of whether the European Green Deal truly represented a system change or was simply a semantic shift. "We cannot deny that Europe has set out a transformative agenda," she said. "It has shown

"Europe has shown leadership and, for that, it has to be recognised and praised."

Kate Raworth

leadership and, for that, Europe has to be recognised and praised."

One challenge of the European Green Deal that Raworth identified was in the tension between its self-identification as a new 'growth strategy' and its holistic vision of a wellbeing society and economy living within ecological boundaries.

Hostage situation

Despite the progress in outlook and semantics, the question remains, Raworth emphasised, of whether this transformative vision would be harnessed or hijacked.

Raworth criticised the long timeframe of the European Green Deal, saying that 2050 was too far in the future and we needed to act radically now.

"Legislation and finance is where the risk of hijacking is the greatest," she noted, pointing to examples like the Common Agricultural Policy, where money that should have been used to make agriculture sustainable is set to be used to perpetuate destructive farming practices.

Historic opportunity

Kate Raworth urged European leaders to rise to the occasion and to dare to be ambitious. "The best way to harness the opportunity is that leaders just need to have the guts to do it," she insisted.

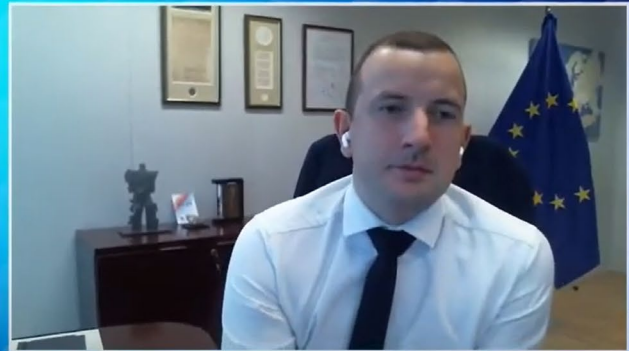
European Environment Commissioner Virginijus Sinkevičius echoed this point. "We live in times of crisis. Human beings tend to go back to old solutions, to business as usual. I'm proud that, here, in Europe, we did the opposite, despite the difficult circumstances,"

"COVID-19 has reminded us of our fragility and the fragility of our world."

Virginijus Sinkevičius

he argued in a session about the EU's environmental leadership. "COVID-19 has reminded us of our fragility and the fragility of our world."

He, however, disagreed with Raworth's



EEB Secretary General Jeremy Wates poses questions to European Environment Commissioner Virginijus Sinkevičius at the EEB's first online Annual Conference.

assessment that the European Green Deal was not ambitious enough to meet the magnitude of the crisis. "We have a decade to halt the climate crisis and environmental degradation and to deliver systemic change," Sinkevičius said. "Our commitment is ambitious but achievable." He cited, as an example of this ambition, the EU's Biodiversity Strategy for 2030.

Build to thrive

A panel debate brought together eminent voices from politics and civil society to discuss how to build back better and to build back differently. These included Austria's Minister for Climate Action and the Environment Leonore Gewessler; the chair of the European Parliament's Environment Committee, Pascal Canfin; Florika Fink-Hooijer, Director-General of the European Commission's Environment DG; Elisabeth Freytag-Rigler of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Climate Action and the Environment; Ana Colovic Lesoska, Director of the Centre for Environmental Research and Information (Eko-svest), North Macedonia, and Tonny Nowshin, a climate justice and degrowth activist.

Gewessler outlined her vision for a sustainable future. "There is only one answer: better, greener and stronger. We have to rethink in a comprehensive sense the structure of our society [and]

the structure of our economy," she noted. "We have to avoid spending billions of euros to move from one crisis to another."

Gewessler also stressed the importance of embarking on an inclusive transformation: "Leaving no-one behind is essential. This needs to be put down as a reality, not just a headline." To truly achieve this kind of inclusiveness and equitability requires not only finding ways to improve the situation of the vulnerable in Europe, but also needs us to think about the global impacts of EU policies, observed Nowshin. For example, she pointed out, by subsidising agricultural overproduction

"We have to avoid spending billions of euros to move from one crisis to another."

Leonore Gewessler

in Europe, the CAP hurts farmers in poorer countries in Africa and Asia. In addition, the drive for greater sustainability in Europe can lead to negative consequences, such as deforestation, elsewhere in the world, she noted.

Future-proofing Europe

EEB Secretary General Jeremy Wates wound up the annual conference by

reflecting on how far the environmental movement had come in Europe in recent times. "We are in a completely different place than a few years ago," he commented.

Wates praised the youth movement, environmental organisations, growing public concern and engagement, and policymakers with foresight for the shift.

"Has the European Green Deal changed things? Yes, it has. But it's not a panacea," Wates said. "The COVID-19 pandemic could have knocked the Green Deal off course. But, by and large, it held. EU politicians have stood behind the European Green Deal and turned it into a call for a green recovery."

Wates concluded by stressing the importance of the EU's place in the wider world: "The EGD needs to be mirrored in our external relations. This means on the one hand using its status as the largest single market in the world to insist that trading partners respect certain environmental and social standards; on the other, that the EU reduces the negative impact of European lifestyles on other parts of the world."

To watch the full recording of the EEB's 2020 conference and for other background information, visit conference.eeb.org

TAKING STOCK:

One year with the European Green Deal



This month, the Von der Leyen Commission can celebrate the one-year anniversary of its revolutionary European Green Deal. The EEB took this opportunity to do some stocktaking of expectations and delivery so far. Asger Mindegaard writes.

Amongst (many) other things, 2020 will be remembered as the first year with environmental sustainability in the driving seat of the European Commission. Where do we stand now, one year in?

On 11 December last year, a group of EEB staff was gathered in the office's biggest meeting room. The atmosphere was electric and all eyes were on the large screen, where the new President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, was about to present her European Green Deal (EGD).

The importance of the moment can hardly be understated: the European Commission was about to adopt a political programme for the entire EU built on sustainability and singling out climate and environmental degradation as 'this generation's defining task'. Like other environmentalists in Brussels, EEB staff were rather used to seeing the Commission under Jean-Claude Juncker's leadership as reluctant, if not outright opposed to sustainability commitments, but this was about to change.

Yet, despite diverging priorities between EU countries, fierce opposition from some business interests and the pandemic, the first year of the EGD gives reasons to remain cautiously optimistic. The Commission recognised the EGD as the blueprint for the recovery in response to the COVID-19 crisis and the subsequent Recovery Package identifies the EGD as a map to build back better.

"The unveiling of the European Green Deal was a key turning point in the evolution of the EU's environmental policy", EEB Secretary General Jeremy

"The unveiling of the European Green Deal was a key turning point in the evolution of the EU's environmental policy. But we should not underestimate the challenges ahead in delivering on it."

Jeremy Wates

Wates reflects. "But we should not underestimate the challenges ahead in delivering on it."

Delays caused by the pandemic have been relatively minor, and the Commission can be complemented for

progressing with its agenda. And the EGD and associated commitment to become a carbon-neutral continent have clearly impressed many parts of the world, with still more countries signing up to climate neutrality.

While the first major test for the EGD, the pandemic, has been reasonably well addressed, several other immediate obstacles lurk in the waters. Most visibly perhaps is the threat of policy incoherence due to interference by vested interests. We currently see this very clearly in the ongoing reform of the Common

Agricultural Policy (more detail on page 11) and other key areas risk similar dangers. Another risk to the EGD is the discrepancy between stated goals and on-the-ground policy implementation: we need the EU to walk its transformative talk. And even

One year ago - EEB staff watch Ursula von der Leyen announce the European Green Deal.



once policies are in place, they still need to be implemented and enforced at EU, national and local level. Another weakness of the EGD lies in the external dimension: with only vague references to sustainable trade, and a Raw Material Strategy focused on securing supply rather than on bringing our resource use down.

This Commission has made the EGD its top priority and it is essential that it now delivers in practice. This, however, also depends much on the European Parliament and national governments and on how the EGD is funded. Where the EGD will be able to take us largely depends on pending decisions by a range of decisions makers – at EU and Member State level. The EEB will continue to work hard for an ever-greener EGD - to promote a world where people and nature can thrive together.

To the right, you find an overview of the EEB assessment of the EGD initiatives from the first year and of what to watch out for in the future.

The EEB briefing *The European Green Deal, one year in* can be read at eeb.org/library

The EEB's assessment of the first year of the European Green Deal

Palpable progress

Biodiversity Strategy
Climate Law
Chemical Strategy for Sustainability
Circular Economy Action Plan

Progress, but weaker than needed

Farm to Fork Strategy
Climate Target Plan
Hydrogen Strategy
Methane Strategy
Renovation Wave
Industrial Strategy
Emission Information (E-PRTR)
8th Environment Action Programme (8EAP)
SDGs in European Semester
Better Regulation

Deeply disappointing

Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)

To watch in the coming years

Implementation of Biodiversity and Farm to Fork Strategies
Climate

- Implementation of 2030 GHG emission reduction
- Energy efficiency
- Renewable energy share
- Mobility package
- Review of Climate and Energy Architecture

Zero Pollution Action Plan

Monitoring progress of Industrial Strategy

Recovery and Resilience Facility and national action plans (EGD-corona recovery nexus)

Economic Instruments reform (e.g. energy taxation and carbon border adjustment)

Implementation and mid-term assessment of 8th Environment Action Programme

Aligning EU trade policy with the EGD

Due Diligence Legislation

Economic Governance reform

Going beyond GDP in a post-COVID 19 Europe



Imagine a world without toxic chemicals...

That might not be so far away. Although chemical production is surging, most of it toxic, Brussels is set to rein in a dangerous sector with a glaring safety problem.

Jack Hunter writes.

Ask Europeans if they fear toxic chemicals and two thirds will say yes. Serious, EU-wide official polling confirms more or less the same degree of public anxiety year after year. And with good reason. Daily exposure to a mix of toxic substances is linked to rising health, fertility problems, developmental threats, as well as the collapse of insect, bird and mammal populations and a major driver of climate change. Chemicals of concern are ubiquitous in food, water, products, our homes, workplaces and are found in even the most remote environments. Over 300 industrial chemicals are found in

“We face three existential man-made threats and one of them is chemical pollution.”

humans today that were not present in our grandparents and babies are born “pre-polluted”. The net effect? We face three existential man-made threats and one of them is chemical pollution.

But although global chemicals sales are set to double by 2030, vital EU protections are also set to ratchet up massively in the coming years. Following a particularly green outcome to the European elections, the very first flagship policy to be announced

in Brussels was the European Green Deal. This came with a “zero pollution” goal, which soon morphed into an array of good things, including a target to cut by half pesticide production, and a momentous surge in chemical safety laws outlined in a Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability, Towards a Toxic-Free Environment.

This is music to our ears, because while Europe already has some of the world’s most advanced chemical regulations, their implementation is painfully slow and not working as intended. Take legal compliance, for example. The German government recently took the unusual step of spending three years auditing legal compliance of all chemicals registered for use in Europe. The results were shocking - only a third were legal, the rest had essential chemical safety information missing or the cases were unclear. The EU Chemicals Agency paints a similar picture, while an EEB report found that half the chemicals checked by government officials were being used dangerously, but not much is being done about it. The EEB led the way in generating mass media awareness of this sorry situation, raising the alarm and triggering a rapid change in the law ordering legal checks to rise from 5 to 20 percent, and soon all substances in use in Europe.

How had things got so bad? One reason may be pressure from the €565 billion per year European chemical industry, the

bloc’s fourth largest industrial sector and owned by some of its richest and most powerful men. It is the biggest paying client of the biggest public relations firm in Brussels, so its influence is not easy to prove. But the strange, warped outcomes are. In the run-up to the new chemicals strategy, EU health officials were exposed trying to block progress on chemical safety and EU employment officials were caught fighting progress to tackle the biggest workplace killer - toxic chemicals.

These attempts failed and the new chemicals strategy is a game-changer. It is not yet law, but legal proposals are in the pipeline, promised within the term of the new EU Commission, ending

“I think polluters understand that there’s no free lunch anymore.”

Frans Timmermans

2024. Environmental, consumer and health NGOs immediately welcomed the strategy announcement on 14 October. If properly implemented, they said, Europe would rapidly phase-out vast amounts of toxic substances. In a video interview co-organised by the EEB, vice president Frans Timmermans put it bluntly: “I think polluters understand that there’s no free lunch anymore,” going on to say: “You



Outdoor clothing is a major source of PFAS - otherwise known as forever chemicals - in the environment.

cannot sacrifice health on the altar of economic growth."

Even Hollywood star Mark Ruffalo weighed in on news that the chemicals strategy will eliminate all toxic PFAS 'forever chemicals'. "This is such incredible news," he tweeted "I am so grateful to the European Union for listening the science... Governments can be responsive and do what's right for people! Bravo." Ruffalo had visited an EEB co-organised event in Brussels in February to champion the cause.

So what is changing exactly? The strategy promises that substances that cause cancer, reproductive problems and a host of other impacts will be banned from food packaging, childcare products, cosmetics, detergents, furniture and textiles. Endocrine disrupting chemicals, a particularly worrying group, will get faster regulation, apparently; the EU has been making similar promises on EDCs since 1999.

Zooming out, the EU leadership has finally acknowledged that health and environmental sustainability are red lines and will shift the regulatory approach from a supposedly safe handling of harmful

chemicals to one where they are not created in the first place. Industry will likely get financial and other support to shift to better substances and technologies. EEB

"The EU now needs to truly deliver on the high level of political ambition committed to in the Chemicals Strategy."

Tatiana Santos

has long called for an EU centre to help industry make the change, something that will now finally happen.

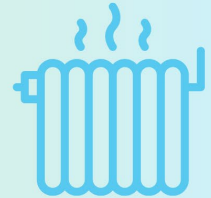
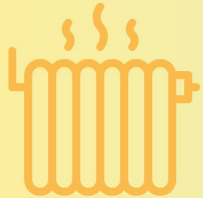
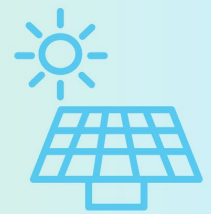
Brussels has committed to a whole lot more checks on chemical safety. A "zero tolerance for non-compliance" finally means that substances will be kicked out of the market if they don't meet safety laws. This will go some way to ending the perverse situation where industry can easily sell chemicals that do great harm, but regulators can do little or nothing about it for decades due to creaking bureaucratic machinery.

Clean recycling will become the rule. We need this to counter the rising tide of toxic substances building up in waste streams and recycled into consumer products. Practically speaking, we are promised a powerful new product policy to block harmful chemicals at the design stage.

Last but not least, the EU will finally end a shameful policy that allows the chemical industry to export substances that are so dangerous they are illegal in Europe, but legal to sell outside Europe, as if chemical pollution respected national borders and Europeans cared not at all about others.

Keeping her eyes on the prize, EEB chemicals policy manager Tatiana Santos said: "The EU now needs to turn this template, this declaration of intent, into action to truly deliver on the high level of political ambition committed to in this strategy. Similar pledges have gone nowhere in the past, but the Von der Leyen Commission is building a results-oriented reputation. We cannot afford years more 'paralysis by analysis' from officials."

For more about our work on chemicals visit eeb.org/chemicals or browse our news channel meta.eeb.org.



Cooling down Europe's heating system

A gradual phase-out of fossil gas boilers is one of the single most important and powerful actions that Europe's lawmakers must take in the new year.

Mauro Anastasio writes.

Europe's heating and cooling is a climate time bomb, with the sector responsible for almost half of the EU's energy consumption and a third of its CO₂ emissions.

Ageing buildings bear much of the blame, with a large part of the energy used to heat our homes going to waste due to poor insulation.

However, in Brussels' policy circles many are sounding the alarm bells over the continued installation and use of fossil fuel boilers – some of which are still labelled 'green' without any technical or scientific justification.

The problem is more evident than in most other sectors. Over 80% of Europe's heat supply is still generated by fossil fuels, with gas boilers being the single largest source.

Many countries want to reverse this trend, promising a shift toward renewable energy and carbon-neutral technology such as heat pumps. Yet progress is slow as governments continue to subsidise the installation of new gas boilers, making the uptake of truly clean technology more challenging by the day.

As a result, Europe risks being locked into burning gas for decades to come. Installing a new gas boiler today means that it will be in use for an average of 10 to 20 years – something that threatens

the EU's goal of reducing emissions sufficiently by 2030 and its plans to reach climate neutrality by 2050 too.

As part of the Coolproducts campaign, the EEB has been calling for a ban on the sale of new gas boilers. The least efficient heating systems should be gradually phased out of the EU market, with the last fossil fuel boiler being sold no later than in 2030.

The EEB has also called on governments to stop financing the installation of new gas boilers, reorienting subsidies towards clean solutions instead. Putting an end date on the production of fossil fuel

technology would give both consumers and manufacturers time to prepare for the switch.

Given the magnitude of the problem, the time to act is now. So long as fossil fuel-fired heaters continue to be produced, sold, and installed in our homes, it is difficult to envisage a carbon neutral future for Europe.

More information at coolproducts.eu/heating



“Installing a new gas boiler today means that it will be in use for 10 to 20 years - something that threatens the EU's goal of reducing emissions sufficiently by 2030.”





CAPping the green expectations

The EU's Common Agricultural Policy reform will decide how the next seven years of farming will look. Which future would you choose?

October saw the preliminary culmination of a more-dramatic-than-usual reform of the EU Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) - and the results left almost everything to be desired. Asger Mindegaard writes.

The European Parliament and the Council have finalised their positions on the CAP reform. Now the three-way negotiations with the European Commission can begin, and will likely drag out well into 2021.

Deeply rooted disagreements about how ambitiously to address the agricultural sector's detrimental environmental impacts have caused tensions between and within the three institutions.

The Council largely agreed on a predictably unambitious position while 166 members of the European Parliament (MEPs) voted in favour of rebooting the entire process due to a perceived lack of environmental ambition.

Nevertheless, a clear majority of MEPs supported an environmentally disastrous compromise deal which easily passed in the plenary vote.

"We are incredibly disappointed by the results achieved in the European Parliament, which are arguably even worse than the position of the Council," said Célia Nyssens, Policy Officer for

Agriculture at the EEB. "Based on the Parliament and Council positions, the upcoming negotiations will almost certainly lock us into another seven years of environmental destruction funded by EU taxpayers."

The fierce struggle between those defending the status quo and those calling for urgent and deep reforms seems to be tipping in favour of the former, despite an ever-increasing body of evidence highlighting agriculture's role in driving climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution of air, water and soil.

EEB Senior Policy Officer for Agriculture, Bérénice Dupeux laments: "Farming is one of the greatest forces trashing the planet and yet the EU is opting to pour fuel on the fire. The CAP, one third of the entire EU budget, should be a force for good, but is yet again being hijacked by defenders of the status quo."

Tensions with the European Green Deal have only grown since last winter, as the new Commission's strong emphasis on sustainability has made the environmental inadequacy of

"The CAP, one third of the entire EU budget, should be a force for good, but is yet again being hijacked by defenders of the status quo."

Bérénice Dupeux

the original 2018 CAP proposal even harder to ignore. Nevertheless, the Commission continues to stand by the proposal that will now be the basis for the negotiations between the three institutions.

"Whatever transition to sustainable farming promised in the European Green Deal is now on hold indefinitely," Dupeux concludes.

Negotiations will run over spring 2021 and the new CAP will begin from January 2023, after a two-year transition period.

[Read more at eeb.org/agriculture](https://www.eeb.org/agriculture)

Projects planting seeds of hope across Europe

Projects and campaigns are the core work of NGOs on the ground. We hosted a project fair as part of our annual conference, so that despite the distance we could draw closer as a network. Here are some of those great projects working to make a better world in which people and nature thrive together.

Marie-Amélie Brun writes.

Framtiden i våre hender

Norwegians for climate

Future in our Hands' new campaign encourages Norwegians to switch to a more sustainable lifestyle and asks politicians to put more measures in place to help people make the transition.

From repairing products to buying less new clothes and eating less meat, Future in our Hands champions actions that everyone can incorporate in their daily lives.

The NGO proposes different actions that serve the same climate friendly objectives to include as many people as possible and create sustainable changes in one's daily life.

Launched a year before the Parliament election, the campaigns aim to influence the votes and green the political sphere in Norway.

More information:
klimadugnad.framtiden.no

CENN

Young, green entrepreneurship

The project ran by CENN aims to boost green entrepreneurship among young people in Georgia and Armenia.

The network facilitates employability of youth through capacity building, promoting cooperation, helping establish favourable ecosystems for social entrepreneurship and green innovation as tools for social transformation.

CENN is currently looking for consultants. If you are interested in supporting the implementation of 'GREENcubator' programmes, the implementation of co-working spaces in rural areas and/or in reviewing and analysing policy documents and legislation related to social entrepreneurship, reach out to the project team.

More information:
environment.cenn.org

YEE! YOUTH AND ENVIRONMENT EUROPE

New youth advocacy working group

Our member Youth Environment Europe recently launched an Advocacy Working Group to strengthen youth advocacy in Brussels.

Created in August 2020, the Advocacy Working Group is divided in several areas and each of them is managed by a member of YEE's team.

On their website you will learn more about the many events and webinars that they organise and how you can connect with their passionate and dynamic team.

More information:
yeenet.eu/our-work

Welcome to the EEB!

At our AGM that followed our annual conference we welcomed six new members to our network:

European Union of Mountaineering Associations - EUMA

IFLA Europe - International Federation of Landscape Architects

Testbiotech, Germany

Let's do it foundation, Estonia

Umanotera, Slovenia

Aplinkosaugos koalicija - Environmental Coalition, Lithuania



Supporting the rapid decarbonisation of Europe

The PlanUp project tracks the development of national energy and climate plans in five EU countries and promotes good practices in the transport, agriculture and building sectors to support the rapid decarbonisation of Europe.

Discover more on their website and don't hesitate to reach out to their team.

More information:
planup.eu



The Glasgow Agreement

The Glasgow Agreement is a civil society initiative which aims to empower citizens in the fight against the climate crisis. It enables civil society to propose its own plan of action, without having to wait for action from governments and international institutions.

The aim of the initiative, promoted by several organisations including EEB members Ecologistas en Acción, is to create alternative tools for action and a space for strategy and coordination of the climate justice movement.

Weekly webinars are organised in English every Wednesday at 2pm.

More information:
glasgowagreement.net



Speleo Kamaraton

In 2021 a new edition of the Speleo Kamaraton will be organized by Società Speleologica Italiana. The initiative aims to foster sustainable speleology, archeology, paleontology, and cave diving for a better conservation of caves and protection of their biodiversity and waterways.

More information:
speleokamaraton.eu

For more on the great work of our members visit eeb.org/our-members



UNRAVELLED

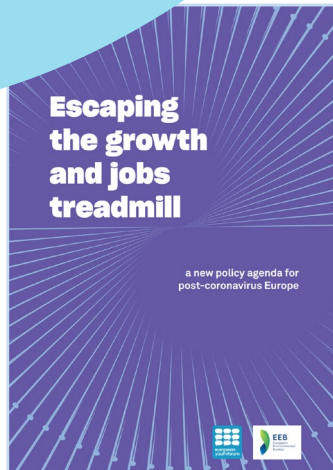
A photo essay on Europe's textile transition

The people remaking the textiles industry have stories of inspiration, hope and ingenuity.

Read them at [META.ecb.org/unravelled](https://meta.ecb.org/unravelled)



Reports



Escaping the growth and jobs treadmill: a new policy agenda for post-coronavirus Europe

This joint report by the European Environmental Bureau and the European Youth Forum provides a policy blueprint for creating employment in a post-pandemic EU and a vision for revolutionising the future of work, including universal basic incomes, shorter working weeks, job sharing, job guarantees and economic democracy.

Published November 2020



Time to reach for the moon: The EU needs to step up action and lead the transformation to sustainability

The report flags up the serious gaps in the EU's statistics on the Sustainable Development Goals, which create an illusion of sustainability. It also shares our vision of what a truly sustainable Europe would be like, with progressive policies, innovative initiatives and truly sustainable business models.

Published September 2020

These and more at

eeb.org/library

Coming soon:

The EEB's Assessment of the German Presidency of the EU

As the German Presidency of the EU draws to a close, we measure their performance against the Ten Green Tests we set them six months ago.

To be published December 2020

Interested in joining the team?

eeb.org/opportunities

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EEB
European Environmental Bureau

The EEB is Europe's largest network of environmental citizens' organisations. We bring together over 160 civil society organisations from more than 35 European countries.


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Set up in 1974, the EEB is Europe's largest network of environmental NGOs, bringing together over 160 civil society organisations from more than 35 European countries (all EU Member States plus some accession and neighbouring countries), including a growing number of European networks, with a combined membership of an estimated 30 million people.

WORKING FOR A BETTER FUTURE WHERE PEOPLE AND NATURE THRIVE TOGETHER

What makes the EEB unique?

The EEB is the only European umbrella organisation that covers such a large number of environmental policy issues and is at the same time open to membership for all genuine NGOs active in the field of the environment. This makes the EEB a unique and unifying actor for the European environmental movement and gives it a strong voice in EU and international policy processes.

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