BRIEFING | European Green Deal | Issue 066 | 11 June 2021



General

- The European Commission presented the <u>European Green Deal</u> proposal (<u>communication +</u> <u>roadmap</u>) on 11 December 2019.
- The European Council of <u>12 December 2019</u> confirmed the principle of climate neutrality.
- The European Parliament on 15 January 2020 adopted <u>a resolution</u> supporting the Green Deal by a large majority.
- The roadmap accompanying the Commission's communication gives an indicative timing of the expected initiatives.
- The Commission has published the work programme for 2021.

Current affairs

- What has been the impact of granting free allowances under the ETS? (<u>Carbon Market</u> <u>Watch</u>)
- On 10 June the <u>environment ministers</u> met. (<u>CAN Europe</u>) The <u>results</u> of the meeting and the conclusions on the <u>adaptation strategy</u>. (<u>Euractiv</u>)
- EnergyPost about <u>'fit for 55%'</u>.
- <u>IndustriAll</u> about fit for 55%.
- The Commission is working on a social fund to support vulnerable households for the consequences of an expansion of the ETS system. (<u>Euractiv</u>, <u>EESC</u>)
- What is the state of play on the carbon border adjustment mechanism (CBAM)? (Euractiv)
- <u>Sebastian Oberthür and Claire Dupont</u> call for an EU grand climate strategy.
- CO₂ levels in the atmosphere continue to rise, despite the pandemic. (<u>The Guardian</u>)
- An interview with António Guterres on the climate crisis. (The Guardian)
- Jennifer Tollmann and Max Gruenig on the <u>EU-US summit</u> on 15 June.
- A group of organisations call for higher targets in the Renewable Energy Directive.
- There is enough potential for renewable energy around the world to replace fossil fuels and meet the 1.5°C target. A <u>new report</u> by Fossil Fuel Exit Strategy.
- PWC on the <u>energy system of the future</u>.
- The IEA calls for more investment in the <u>energy transition in developing countries</u>.
- The further development of solar energy is slowed down by rising costs of raw materials, among other things. (Euractiv)

- Forest Defenders Alliance wants an end to the <u>burning of wood from forests</u> to generate energy. A group of NGOs calls for the preparation of the taxonomy for sustainable finance to be suspended until other crucial files are settled. (<u>Transport & Environment</u>, <u>WWF</u>)
- The industry expects the price of clean hydrogen to fall sharply by mid-century. (Euractiv)
- Hydrogen Europe believes that the proposed taxonomy for sustainable finance could have been more ambitious regarding green hydrogen. (<u>Euractiv</u>)
- It's not a good idea to look to Africa for our green hydrogen. (Luc Grare)
- EnergyPost about the <u>hydrogen plans</u> of some European countries.
- According to Airbus, hydrogen will not really be used in aircraft until after 2050. (Euractiv)
- Big oil companies are starting to invest more in renewable energy, which means that 'peak oil' is getting closer. (<u>Euractiv</u>)
- The <u>European construction sector</u> is calling for an ambitious policy to decarbonise buildings.
- Discussions on the European recovery fund could lead to the 'renovation wave' being delayed. (<u>Euractiv</u>)
- An <u>article</u> on instruments for deep renovation of buildings.
- Energy Cities joins the new European <u>Bauhaus</u>.
- France calls for faster implementation of the new framework for batteries. (Euractiv)
- Germany now has 20 years of experience with a deposit system for beverage containers. (Euractiv)
- The <u>Commission and UNEP</u> are going to work together for a circular economy.
- How can countries make progress in the circular economy? There is much to learn from Finland's experience. (WEF)
- Are there alternatives to new mining projects? A report.
- KPMG on the importance for companies of a <u>circular economy</u> as a strategy to reach climate goals.
- Metabolic on the role of the public and private sector in the development of <u>circular cities</u>.
- An article about <u>material passports</u> for buildings.
- An <u>article</u> about the potential of circular economy on a territorial level.
- An <u>article</u> about design aimed at 'recirculation'.
- An <u>article</u> about industry 4.0 and circular economy.
- Can non-sustainable electronics support sustainability? An article.
- The Commission wants to impose mandatory targets on the car industry for use of recycled materials. (Euractiv)
- The Commission is working on a revision of the end-of-life vehicles directive. (Euractiv)
- Orgalim on the <u>Sustainable Products legislative Initiative</u> (SPI).
- META on the Sustainable Products Initiative.
- Stricter targets are needed for the transport sector to achieve climate neutrality, says <u>CAN</u> <u>Europe</u> in a new report.
- How can hydrogen decarbonise the maritime sector? A report.
- Without stricter targets for electric vehicles, the EU risks missing out on many investments in sustainable batteries. (<u>Transport & Environment</u>)
- An article on <u>sustainable MaaS</u>.
- An <u>article</u> on urban mobility after Covid-19.
- The future for European cities is climate neutral. That is what <u>EuroCities</u> says.
- The Commission published the proposal for the <u>2022 budget</u>.
- The European Parliament's environment committee will vote on the 8th Environmental Action Programme (8EAP) next week. (<u>WWF</u>)
- The Council has now also finally approved the <u>Just Transition Fund</u>. (<u>Reuters</u>)
- A <u>briefing</u> on the European Recovery Plan.

- The European Parliament asks the Commission to approve only those <u>national plans for</u> <u>recovery and resilience</u> that really opt for a sustainable recovery policy.
- A report by LSE, including Nicholas Stern, made for the G7, on sustainable recovery policies.
- An <u>article</u> on roadmaps for a climate-neutral transition of heavy industry.
- Some airlines request funds from the green recovery fund. (Euractiv)
- An analysis of the submitted national plans for recovery and resilience shows that they pay too little attention to the digital transition. (<u>Euractiv</u>)
- Intel will open a foundry for advanced semiconductors in Europe. (Euractiv)
- How can we recover waste heat from data centres?
- An <u>article</u> on large digital technology companies and sustainable development.
- <u>CECOP</u> on the industrial strategy.
- An <u>article</u> on 'responsible' and 'sustainable' tourism.
- G7 ministers have an agreement to require companies to report on the climate impact of their decisions. (<u>Euractiv</u>)
- An <u>article</u> about CSR in times of Covid-19.
- Are fossil fuel assets becoming the new "subprimes"? A <u>report</u> by Reclaim Finance.
- The EIB is far from being a climate bank, say <u>Jennifer Morgan and Xavier Sol</u>.
- According to Swiss Re, climate inaction is not an option. A report.
- A group of major investors is calling on governments to stop subsidising fossil fuels. (<u>The</u> <u>Guardian</u>)
- Commission says first bond sale to support EU recovery fund is fast approaching. (Reuters)
- A group of seven countries does not want the taxonomy to be used for public spending. (<u>Reuters</u>)
- An article in Nature on <u>financing a sustainable ocean economy</u>.
- June 5 was World Environment Day. (UN News, UN News)
- A <u>briefing</u> on the state of biodiversity, in the EU and globally.
- Scientists say more attention should be paid to the root causes of pandemics, especially the destruction of nature. (<u>The Guardian</u>)
- Negotiations in preparation for the major biodiversity summit in Kunming are not progressing well enough. (<u>Climate Home News</u>, <u>The Guardian</u>)
- The European Parliament voted on <u>a report</u> on the biodiversity strategy. (<u>European</u> <u>Parliament</u>, <u>Reuters</u>, <u>WWF</u>, <u>Euractiv</u>, <u>EU Observer</u>, <u>HSI</u>, <u>EuroNews</u>, <u>Eurogroup for Animals</u>, <u>Seas at Risk</u>)
- The climate and nature crises must be tackled together. So says <u>a new report</u> commissioned by IPBES and IPCC. <u>Press release</u>. (<u>The Guardian</u>, <u>Reuters</u>)
- Meeting biodiversity targets will be impossible without addressing the role of indigenous peoples and local communities. (<u>WWF</u>)
- It is important that we restore our soils. So says a <u>new FAO report</u>. (The Guardian)
- Many member states are not doing enough to restore polluted rivers to health. A <u>new report</u> by WWF.
- The plastic waste in the sea consists mainly of drink and food packaging. (<u>The Guardian</u>)
- A report by SEI about <u>nature-based solutions</u>.
- The Club of Rome made an analysis of the national plans for recovery and resilience and concluded that there is too little attention for <u>nature-based solutions</u>.
- The European Parliament is calling for an end to cage breeding. The Commission will soon come up with a proposal. (<u>Politico</u>, <u>Euractiv</u>)
- By supporting the fossil industry, governments are putting the human rights of millions of people at risk. So says Amnesty International in a <u>new report</u>.
- How can we accelerate Africa's sustainable energy transition? (<u>Lily Odarno</u>)
- <u>Nick Robins</u> on the challenge of a just transition in the South.

• Countries in the South that are highly vulnerable to climate change are often also heavily indebted, making economic recovery difficult. What can be done? (<u>WEF</u>)

Activities

- 15/06 | Webinar | Financing Our Future Financing A Global Green Deal
- 15/06 | Webinar | <u>A Holistic Approach to Battery Safety and Sustainability for Europe</u>
- 15/06 | Webinar | The Twin Transition: How can Green Growth and Digital Transformation go hand in hand to drive Europe's recovery?
- 15/06 | Webinar | <u>Facilitating access to climate finance through effective multilevel</u> governance
- 15/06 | Webinar | <u>High-level Panel on "Promoting an Inclusive Recovery"</u>
- 15/06 | Online | The Great Transition: How to get to carbon zero 2050?
- 15/06 | Webinar | <u>COP26 recognizing the role of trade and the private sector in</u> <u>adaptation</u>
- 15-16/06 | Online | <u>Covenant of Mayors Investment Forum: Energy efficiency finance</u> <u>market place</u>
- 15-17/06 | Online | Efficient Buildings Digital Days #2
- 15-17/06 | Online | <u>Circularity 21</u>
- 16/06 | Webinar | <u>Translating climate ambition into a just transition what should we expect from business ?</u>
- 16/06 | Webinar | <u>Nexus, Digitalisation and Human Capital for a Green-Deal in</u> <u>Transboundary Waters</u>
- 16/06 | Webinar | <u>The future of work in the EU Challenges in a fast-changing world</u>
- 16/06 | Webinar | <u>ROAD TO ZERO: Future of automotive industry</u>
- 16/06 | Webinar | Industrial symbiosis: A tool for the Green Deal
- 16/06 | Webinar | European and National Development Banks for the Green Transition
- 16/06 | Webinar | Designing the net-zero gas system
- 16/06 | Online | Online training session: How to implement a MaaS system in your city
- 16-18/06 | Online | <u>European Organic Congress 2021</u>: 'Organic's contribution to the <u>European Green Deal'</u>
- 17/06 | Webinar | Corporate Sustainability Reporting: recent developments
- 17/06 | Online | <u>RawMaterials Summit 2021</u>
- 17/06 | Webinar | The politics of biofuels and bioeconomy: who wins and who loses?
- 17/06 | Webinar | Urban Environmental Justice & Green Gentrification
- 17/06 | Webinar | US-EU Exchange: Advancing a climate-neutral recovery
- 18/06 | Online | <u>The Trans-European Networks for Energy a Milestone Towards a</u> <u>Renewables-Powered EU</u>
- 18/06 | Webinar | Towards a holistic strategy on sustainable and equitable rural and urban development
- 21/06 | Online | Advertising for modern, responsible consumption
- 21-23/06 | Online | <u>Healthy Buildings Europe 2021</u>
- 21-25/06 | Transport and Climate Change Week
- 21-25/06 | Online | World Sustainable Energy Days 2021
- 22/06 | Webinar | Protecting nature's protectors: Rangers as 'key workers' for delivering SDGs
- 22/06 | Online | Local Green Deals A Blueprint for Action
- 23/06 | Webinar | <u>Future of work how has the COVID-19 pandemic re-shaped the agenda?</u>
- 23/06 | Online | Environmental Risks and the Insurance Industry: Stepping up actions
- 23/06 | Webinar | How can cities and regions support a more circular building sector?

- 23/06 | Webinar | <u>New Resources for the EU Green Deal</u>
- 23/06 | Webinar | Life on a farm: Nature-based solutions to the climate challenge
- 23-25/06 | Online | European Energy Efficiency Conference 2021
- 24/06 | International workshop 'Urban climate resilience: the role of law'
- 24/06 | Webinar | <u>Fit for purpose? The role of renewable fuels on the road to 2030 and beyond</u>
- 24/06 | Webinar | <u>Biocontrol, an essential ingredient of the Green Deal?</u>
- 25/06 | Online | Council Member roundtable on Transforming Urban Mobility
- 29/06 | Online | World Climate Forum EUROPE
- 29/06 | Webinar | <u>Blockchain technology for sustainable supply chains and the circular</u> <u>economy: the potential and promise</u>
- 29/06 | Online | <u>Online training session: Planning for more resilient and robust urban</u> <u>mobility</u>
- 05/07 | Webinar | <u>EU policies for healthy food environments What role for all stakeholders?</u>
- 06/07 | Webinar | The role of science in sustainable food and how to communicate it
- 08/07 | Webinar | <u>Tools and Lessons for inclusive and sustainable recovery to secure, regain</u> and sustain SDG momentum
- 08/07 | Webinar | How to measure and reduce plastic in healthcare
- 09/07 | Online | <u>The SDGs in time of crisis: A sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery</u> from COVID-19 as an opportunity to realize the SDGs
- 12/07 | Webinar | <u>Recovery and sustainability how can SMEs achieve both?</u>
- 15/07 | Online | <u>Distributed Energy Resources as new Infrastructure, versus Incumbent</u> <u>Utilities</u>
- 19-20/07 | Online | International Conference on Ecology, Biodiversity and Environment
- 30/08-03/09 | Online | Environmental litigation and compliance beyond the nation-state
- 30/08-03/09 | Online | "Natural" boundaries of climate protection under EU Law A clash of ecological interests
- 06-10/09 | Online | EU PVSEC 2021
- 07/09 | Webinar | Forest restoration and tree-planting What impact for climate change mitigation?
- 08-09/09 | International Conference on Sustainable Development
- 08-10/09 | ERSCP 2021 European Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production
- 28-30/09 | 29th EEAC Anual conference
- 11-14/10 | The European SDG Summit 2021
- 26/10 | <u>Climate Finance Day</u>
- 29/10 | The European Green Deal: how to make the economy sustainable and what are the risks for workers?
- 03-05/11 | Eurocities 2021 Leipzig: The power of cities transforming society
- 16-18/11 | <u>Tomorrow.Mobility Congress</u>
- 22-25/11 | CONCORDi 2021: Industrial Innovation for Competitive Sustainability
- 24-26/11 | 2nd International Conference on Circularity in the Built Environment

Commission documents

- 16/06 | Lessons learnt from the COVID-19 crisis | Second stage consultation of social partners on improving the working conditions in platform work
- 23/06 | Communication on a new occupational safety and health strategy framework

- 30/06 | Revision of the General Product Safety Directive 2001/95/EC | Long-term vision for rural areas | Communication in response to the European citizens' initiative End the Cage Age
- 06/07 | Renewed sustainable finance strategy | Establishment of an EU green bond standard | Anti-money laundering legislative package
- 14/07 | Fit for 55 package: Revision of the EU Emission Trading System, including revision of the EU ETS Directive concerning aviation, maritime and CORSIA, Revision of the Regulation on the inclusion of greenhouse gas emissions and removals from land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF), Effort Sharing Regulation, Amendment to the Renewable Energy Directive to implement the ambition of the new 2030 climate target (tbc), Amendment of the Energy Efficiency Directive to implement the ambition of the new 2030 climate target (tbc), Amendment of the Energy Efficiency Directive to implement the ambition fuels, FuelEU Maritime green European maritime space, Revision of the Directive on deployment of the alternative fuels infrastructure, Amendment of the Regulation setting CO2 emission standards for cars and vans, Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, Revision of the Energy Tax Directive | Digital levy | Proposal for an own resources decision

This briefing has been compiled by the FRDO-CFDD secretariat. The selection does not bind the members of the FRDO-CFDD in any way.

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