

Wednesday 15 May 2019

Pre-Conference Events	
10:15 12:50	European Week for Waste Reduction Awards Event organised by the European Committee of the Regions, 1000 Brussels

Overview				
14:30 16:00	Opening session: Setting the Scene: Challenges and expectations from the implementation of environmental legislation			
Coffee break				
16:30 18:00	1.1 How to TACKLE the environmental impacts of football and other sporting events	1.2 How the Natura 2000 network is making a difference – ingredients for successful conservation	1.3 Environmental Implementation Review: moving forward for better implementation	1.4 Environment and health: why implementing environmental law is important
18:00 20:00	Water cocktail Organised by EurEau			
18:00 20:00	Welcome cocktail			
18:30 19:30	LIFE projects Sparkshow			

Pre-Conference Events

10:15-12:50 **European Week for Waste Reduction Awards**
Event organised by the European Committee of the Regions
Rue van Maerlant 2, 1000 Brussels

The European Week for Waste Reduction (EWWR) annual awards ceremony will reward the most outstanding actions on waste prevention carried out during the Week, which took place in November 2018. Coordinators, action developers and anyone interested in the EWWR are invited to celebrate the initiative and discover best practices on waste reduction from across Europe. The finalists and winners were selected from over 14,000 inspiring actions organised during the last

13.03.19

edition, by a jury of European professionals working in the environmental sector. The EWWR Awards are a fantastic opportunity to put the spotlight on some innovative, effective and long-lasting actions to prevent waste, and to recognise the hard work of those who make them a reality.

Speakers:

- Daniel Calleja Crespo, Director-General for Environment, European Commission
 - Iain Gulland, ACR+ President
 - André van de Nadort, European Committee of the Regions
-

14.30 – 16.00

**Opening session
Setting the Scene: Challenges and Opportunities for the
Implementation of Environmental Legislation**

EU Green Week is built around a simple truth – a law is only useful when it is actually put into practice. With that in mind, delegates will be asking throughout the week how the implementation of environmental laws can be improved. What works, what doesn't, where are the bottlenecks, and how can they be removed? This opening session will set the scene by looking at implementation from a variety of angles, with stories from national, regional and local authorities, business, and elements of civil society. Delegates will be asking can these successes be replicated in places where they are needed most?

Speakers:

- Karmenu Vella, Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs & Fisheries, European Commission
- Martine Aubry, Mayor of Lille
- Nicolas Humez, Regulatory Affairs Director, SARP Industries and Chairman, Hazardous Waste Europe
- Ester Asin, Director, WWF European Policy Office

Moderator:

- Aminda Leigh, Moderators Europe
-

16.30 – 18.00

**Session 1.1 How to TACKLE the environmental impacts of football and other sporting events
In collaboration with ACR+ and UEFA**

The average European football match generates 0.8 kg of waste per spectator. Taking into account all matches organised by Europe's National Football Associations, the overall waste generation is an estimated 750 000 tonnes per year. Sporting clubs and governing bodies, together with local authorities, have made big strides in tackling environmental issues, but coherent strategies and impact measurement systems are still lacking. How can the sport sector move from fragmented initiatives and stand-alone projects to integrated sustainability?

This session aims at encouraging the already growing debate on improving the environmental management of sport events and raising supporters' level of awareness towards sustainability. National Football Associations, stadium managers, local authorities, supporters and NGOs – will share experiences and answer audience questions.

13.03.19

The workshop will also showcase the LIFE TACKLE project, co-financed by the LIFE programme of the European Commission and supported by UEFA, coordinated by Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna and carried out by Italian, Romanian and Swedish National Football Associations, ACR+, Euractiv, LIPOR and AMIU.

Speakers:

Moderator:

Session 1.2 How the Natura 2000 network is making a difference – ingredients for successful conservation

As the delivery of the “EU action plan on nature, people and the economy” is nearing completion, join our session to find out what works best in order to improve the conservation status of our protected species and habitats. The session will present real life targeted conservation actions across the EU that triggered a recovery of species and habitats, especially in Natura 2000 protected areas. It will put the spotlight on the common elements that underpin successes and discuss how to “up-scale” them.

Speakers:

Moderator:

- Humberto Delgado Rosa, Director, Natural Capital Directorate, Directorate-General for Environment, European Commission
 - Mag.Dr. Rainer Raab, Technisches Büro für Biologie, Austria
-

Session 1.3 Environmental Implementation Review: moving forward for better implementation

The Environmental Implementation Review (EIR) aims at improving implementation in the field of EU environmental policy, by identifying the causes of implementation gaps and solutions across policy sectors. Based on that diagnostic, the Commission accompanies the Member States' own actions with technical and financial support and, if necessary, with expertise underpinning structural reforms. Sufficient administrative capacity, in particular skills and expertise are necessary for ensuring good application of environmental law. Many EIR dialogues have taken place so far and the so-called TAIEX-EIR Peer-to-Peer tool accompanying the EIR has provided tailored support to Member States' authorities implementing environmental policy and legislation.

So, what are the main policy findings of the Environmental Implementation Review 2019? What remains to be done? How do we ensure that EIR reports and dialogues are followed up with concrete actions? How do we improve the EIR tool in the future?

Speakers:

- Dr. André Weidenhaupt, Director General, Ministry of the Environment, Climate & Sustainable Development, Luxembourg
- Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, MEP
- Martine Aubry, Mayor of Lille

Moderator:

13.03.19

Session 1.4 Environment and health: why implementing environmental law is important In collaboration with the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission

Many different environmental factors affect human health. Research activities can help understanding these factors and provide scientific evidence for better policymaking. In this session, we invite you to look with us at the science-policy interface. We will present examples of how scientific evidence and innovative solutions provide support to policies, but also discuss the challenges of transferring science to policy. The presentations will address themes such as the exposome, exposure to chemicals, air and noise pollution, plastic pollution in our seas and oceans, and emerging pollutants, water safety and security. Join us for a lively debate on some of the solutions proposed by EU-funded R&I projects and share with us your thoughts and concerns!

Speakers:

- Tuomo Karjalainen, Senior Expert, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission

Moderator:

- Karen Fabbri, Head of Sector Food 2030, Directorate-General for Research & Innovation, European Commission

18:00 – 20:00

Water cocktail

In collaboration with EurEau, the European federation of National Associations of Water and Wastewater Services

Water is good for you! And in Europe, we have great quality water on tap!

Come celebrate our safe, clean and healthy tap water over water-based cocktails, showing how correctly implemented EU policy benefits everyone.

Team EurEau will be on hand to tell you more about how good EU legislation makes good water. The cocktails are guaranteed to be delicious, helping you keep hydrated and your spirits lifted. EurEau is the voice of Europe's water sector, making sure the conversation never runs dry!

18:30 – 19:30

LIFE projects Sparkshow

Join a dynamic and entertaining stage event where LIFE project leaders will pitch the positive impact of their projects to a panel of journalists. Created by the social enterprise Sparknews, the Sparkshow is inspired by The Voice and TED, and aims to shed light on initiatives addressing nature, environment and climate action, attract journalists and create press coverage. During the Sparkshow, LIFE projects will come on stage and pitch their project in front of a jury of journalists standing behind buzzers and the audience. The journalists will have the right to press the buzzers during the pitch if they are seduced by it and that might cover the story in the media.

Thursday 16 May 2019

Overview				
09:30 11:00	2.1 Innovation in implementing sustainable construction ambitions	2.2 Investments and financing strategies to fill the implementation gap of the EU water legislation	2.3 Steps to success for better waste management	2.4 Evaluation of the 7th EAP – building on lessons learnt to create our future environment policy
Coffee				
11:30 13:00	3.1 Energy projects and environmental legislation - a circle to square?	3.2 Fostering investments in support of the EU's Circular Economy Package	3.3 Cities delivering a better environment through the EU Urban Agenda	3.4 The future of environment policy – better integration & implementation at local & regional level
Lunch				
14:30 16:00	4.1 Urban mobility – designing your city	4.2 Peer learning from LIFE	4.3 Putting matters right: how can citizens successfully stand up for green rights?	4.4 The day after the 2019 elections: What role for the new European Parliament in closing the implementation gap?
Coffee				
16:30 18:00	5.1 How civil society can facilitate implementation of environmental laws	5.2 Synergies between the implementation of the CAP & environmental and climate legislation	5.3 Copernicus and Galileo for environmental compliance assurance	5.4 Assessing environmental governance in the age of web portals
<u>Side sessions</u>				
09:30-13:00 Sustainable fertilisers – greener practices to be promoted by the upcoming Fertilising Products Regulation				
14:30-18:00 Putting the implementation of environmental rules to the test – gaming it in a city				
<u>Evening events</u>				
18:30-20:30 The LIFE Awards ceremony				
Followed by a cocktail reception from 20:30 to 21:30				

09.30 – 11.00

Session 2.1 Innovation in implementing sustainable construction ambitions **In collaboration with WorldGBC**

The EU has boldly led global action on energy efficiency in buildings. Across the region, a giant industry is mobilising to deliver a new generation of nearly zero energy buildings from 2021. As we near this deadline, however, leading states and industry actors are waking up to the reality that we are only addressing part of the building sector's impact. Our vision must now extend towards its total impact.

This session will explore the EU's world-leading efforts to establish foundations for a sustainable construction agenda: **Level(s)** - which brings together climate, environment, social and economic goals. Level(s) addresses greenhouse gas emissions, resources and circularity, water, health, resilience, cost and value, looking at impacts through the whole building life cycle.

Participants will learn how leaders from the public, private and third sectors are innovating to implement sustainable construction ambitions and engage in how we overcome implementation challenges to a sustainable built environment.

Speakers:

- Matti Kuittinen, Senior Adviser, Ministry of the Environment, Finland
- Lena Hök, Senior Vice President, Sustainability, Skanska
- Lars Ostenfeld Riemann, Executive Director, Ramboll Buildings
- Christine Lemaitre, CEO, German Sustainable Building Council (DGNB)

Moderator:

- James Drinkwater, Europe Director, World Green Building Council
-

Session 2.2 Investments and financing strategies to fill the implementation gap of the EU water legislation

The aim of the session is to present how EU cohesion policy funds and other sources of financing have contributed to the implementation of the EU water legislation and what are the financing strategies to address the identified implementation gaps. The session will focus on presenting and discussing evidence-based results of studies and successful methodologies applied in order to identify the investment needs and the financing strategies:

- Study on the integration of environmental concerns in the Cohesion Policy funds
- DG ENV & OECD joint study on investment needs and financing strategies in the water sector

The participants will be invited to comment on the results and methodologies presented and to share their personal experiences on this topic.

Speakers:

- Xavier Leflaive, Principal Administrator, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

Moderator:

- Karen Coleman, Moderators Europe
-

Session 2.3 Steps to success for better waste management

Good waste management is a building block of the circular economy and helps prevent waste from having a negative impact on the environment and health. Proper implementation of the EU's waste legislation will speed up the transition to a circular economy.

In September 2018, the Commission adopted its 'Report on the implementation of EU waste legislation, including the early warning for Member States at risk of missing the 2020 preparation for re-use/recycling target on municipal waste' (COM (2018) 656 final). This Report identified key challenges that prevent full compliance and provided recommendations for how to improve waste management in countries and regions that are lagging behind.

This session will aim at presenting best practice in separate collection of municipal waste and the role of extended producer responsibility schemes - the crucial tools to enable better recycling performance.

Speakers:

Moderator:

- Katrina Sichel, Wit and Word Communications
-

Session 2.4 Evaluation of the 7th EAP – building on lessons learned to create our future environment policy

The session at Green Week will present lessons learnt from the evaluation of 7th Environment Action Programme (EAP) and identify Europe's key sustainability and environmental challenges in 2019. Based on this stocktaking, and in the context of the SDGs and Agenda 2030, the discussion will centre on what a future EU environment policy post-2020 could focus on. The session will look into what key actions will be needed to translate the 2050 vision of the 7th EAP into reality in the coming years. Two inspirational speeches will frame a World Café Discussion allowing the audience to discuss interactively and put together a short list of top actions for future EU environment policy-making.

Speakers:

- Astrid Schomaker, Director for Global Sustainable Development, Directorate-General for Environment, European Commission
- Céline Charveriat, Executive Director, Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP)

Senior Moderator:

- Suvi Juvonen, Inter-institutional Relations and Communication, Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations, European Commission
-

Side session 09:30-13:00

Title: Sustainable fertilisers – greener practices to be promoted by the upcoming Fertilising Products Regulation
In collaboration with the Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, European Commission

Intensification of agriculture has greatly increased food availability over recent decades. However, this has led to considerable adverse environmental impacts, such as eutrophication of land and water bodies, greenhouse gas emissions and biodiversity losses. In this workshop discussions will focus on innovative products and techniques in the field of fertilisation.

13.03.19

Innovative fertilising products, applied in parallel with conventional fertilisers, promise to promote an agricultural model that can “feed more with less”. A sustainable agriculture can be the key in closing the nutrient cycle in nature. EU’s future fertilisers may be, in many cases, derived from a variety of secondary raw materials -from waste to animal by-products. These fertilisers, organic or not, are both safe and efficient and can ideally serve the European Circular Economy.

Speakers:

Moderator:

11.30 – 13.00

Session 3.1 Energy projects and environmental legislation - a circle to square?

In collaboration with the Directorate-General for Energy, European Commission

With the Clean Energy for all Europeans Package, the European Commission presented a package of measures with the goal of providing a stable framework for the clean energy transition towards 2030. There are significant investments needed in areas such as production, storage and distribution of energy. The TEN-E regulation was designed to help overcome some of the key barriers that were identified as slowing or preventing, the development of European wide energy infrastructure.

How do we align the safeguards in the Strategic Environmental Assessment directive, Environmental Impact Assessment directive and the Habitats directive with measures to ensure the necessary changes in the energy system in line with the EU 2030 targets and the EU 2050 long-term strategy? How do we make sure that the safeguards are not used as a pretext to block necessary projects?

The session will share best practises and experiences with previous projects.

Speakers:

Moderator:

Session 3.2 Fostering investments in support of the EU’s Circular Economy Package

In collaboration with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

Developing a European circular economy is a key driver of the EU’s sustainability agenda. It relies on sustained investments in technological upgrades and support for advancements in innovation. Such efforts are key for the EU to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon, green economy while maintaining global competitiveness and economic growth.

With the EU’s Circular Economy Package entering into force, Member States must engage in considerable efforts to implement its associated directives. For instance, for both municipal waste and packaging waste, significant investments will be necessary to meet the targets for 2025 to 2035.

The EBRD will host a panel discussion on the role of policy and financial support programmes in enhancing circular economy investments and green innovation activities, by European industries and Member States.

13.03.19

To move away from linear consumption practices, markets and business will need the support of conducive policy frameworks and access to dedicated finance from institutions like the EU and the EBRD, along with a clear understanding of how to align their operations.

The session will explore the most up-to-date developments and on-going initiatives to support the transition to circular economies, from policy recommendations to circular economy financial tools. Some examples of topics for discussion are understanding linear risks for businesses, the need for a harmonised circular economy taxonomy, and supporting policies and instruments for wider investments in green innovation.

Speakers:

Moderator:

Session 3.3 Cities delivering a better environment through the EU Urban Agenda

In this session the Urban Partnership for the Circular Economy will outline their ambitious Action Plan for helping cities to deliver a genuine circular economy, including better waste and water policies as well as how to access funding for implementation.

Speakers:

Moderator:

Session 3.4 The future of environment policy – better integration & implementation at local & regional level **In collaboration with the European Committee of the Regions**

With the end of the evaluation of the 7th Environment Action Programme (EAP), it is necessary to plan for the future. The European Committee of the Regions has recently approved an Opinion on "Towards an 8th Environment Action Programme" and is now organising this session to discuss potential ideas for the future EAP. The session is open to all stakeholders and aims in particular to discuss how to improve the implementation of EU environmental policy at local and regional level.

Speakers:

Moderator:

- Anya Sitaram, Moderators Europe

14.30 – 16.00

Session 4.1 Urban mobility – designing your city **In collaboration with the Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport, European Commission**

Cities are invited to tell us about their progress in the area of sustainable mobility. We will present the EU's urban mobility policy, focusing on the potential of Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMPs) to support the design of more sustainable cities, supported by the majority of city residents. Examples of key success stories will be shared by the panel.

13.03.19

Join us to find out more about how the Commission can help cities achieve better quality of life through cleaner transport options; and to share solutions to pressing issues such as congestion, air and noise pollution, climate change and road fatalities.

We will emphasise the role of SUMP as a cornerstone of the Commission's urban mobility policy, satisfying the diverse transport needs of people and businesses, whilst improving quality of life.

Speakers:

- Prof. Dr. Eric Corijn, Urban Studies, Vrije Universiteit, Brussels

Moderator:

Session 4.2 Peer learning from LIFE

Peer learning is a concrete means of improving implementation of environmental legislation and policy. LIFE projects and the TAIEX-EIR P2P have provided tailored support to Member States' authorities. This session will present several LIFE projects delivering tangible results in terms of better implementation of EU environmental legislation and give participants an opportunity to find partners for possible TAIEX-EIR PEER 2 PEER learning experience in the follow-up to the EU Green Week.

Speakers:

Moderator:

- Peter Woodward, Quest Associates
-

Session 4.3 Putting matters right: how can citizens successfully stand up for green rights?

EU green laws are about protecting the public as well as nature, and the environment. They give rise to rights and obligations. Empowering the public to get access to information and bring environmental cases to the national courts is an important additional tool to ensure the correct application of EU environmental rules, because non-implementation can cause significant damage to health and the quality of air, soil and water. Based on the presentation of a number of practical examples and cases, this interactive session will look into how citizens and NGOs can take the initiative in making sure environmental legislation is applied

Speakers:

- Barbara Metz, Deputy Executive Director, Deutsche Umwelthilfe
- Anna Heslop, Wildlife Project Leader, Client Earth
- Paul Speight, Head of Unit on Environmental Enforcement, Directorate-General for Environment, European Commission

Moderator:

- Rick Thompson, Moderators Europe
-

Session 4.4 The day after the 2019 elections: What role for the new European Parliament in closing the implementation gap? In collaboration with the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP)

As exemplified by the creation of an Enquiry Committee from the European Parliament following the Dieselgate scandal as well as a number of other relevant initiatives, the current European Parliament has attempted to find a new role for itself within the context of inadequate

implementation and enforcement of the environmental acquis. What has the parliament achieved so far and what else should it do to help close the implementation gap in a new context marked by mixed progress towards realising objectives of the 7th EAP, the need to break silos to realise SDGs and increased political pressure for giving greater implementing space to member States?

Speakers:

Moderator

Side session 14:30 - 18:00

Title: Putting the implementation of environmental rules to the test – gaming it in a city
In collaboration with the Joint Research Centre, European Commission

In this session, you will experience how environmental legislation and other factors can influence behaviour and conversations among key stakeholders around a city over the long-term. You will be asked to take a role as an actor whose interactions with others are critical in terms of sustainability and long-term development. You will have to deal with trade-offs and uncontrollable events, and you will experience the power of collaboration. Come and play the game and experience how you can tackle the many challenges that lie ahead.

Game masters:

- Laurent Bontoux, EU Policy Lab, Joint Research Centre, European Commission
 - Anne-Katrin Bock, EU Policy Lab, Joint Research Centre, European Commission
 - Alice Szczepanikova, EU Policy Lab, Joint Research Centre, European Commission
-

16.30 – 18.00

Session 5.1 How civil society can facilitate implementation of environmental laws
In collaboration with the European Economic and Social Committee

Poor and uneven implementation of environmental legislation is a notorious problem in Europe. The European Economic and Social Committee (the EESC) is therefore working on contributing concrete recommendations on how civil society, SMEs and NGOs could play a constructive role in the implementation of environmental laws. This includes ideas for the proper application and enforcement of environmental legislation that can bring not just costs, but also sometimes financial gains and may therefore be an area of particular interest in a time of sluggish economic growth.

The Commission's EIR (Environmental Implementation Review) is a starting point for dialogues with stakeholders. The EESC supports the public debate at EU level on the efforts to bridge the implementation gap. Experience shows that not only can civil society facilitate environmental legislative implementation, but also, as highlighted for example by the French Yellow Vest movement, civil society wants to have a bigger say in the definition of environmental policies.

Speakers:

Moderator:

- Peter Woodward, Quest Associates
-

Session 5.2 Synergies between the implementation of the CAP & environmental and climate legislation

In collaboration with the Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission

The relevance of the environmental and climate objectives in the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) has grown considerably over the various reforms, with a wide range of policy instruments encouraging beneficial agricultural practices, the respect of certain rules stemming from relevant EU environmental and climate legislation and its implementation.

The recently adopted legislative proposals for the CAP after 2020 increase further the environment and climate ambition, supporting the continued transition towards a more sustainable agricultural sector.

The national CAP Strategic Plans, in the design of their “green architecture”, based on enhanced conditionality, eco-schemes and agri-environment-climate measures, will be required to establish stronger links with the environmental and climate legislation and related national planning instruments. This should encourage synergies and coherence across policies, a more effective CAP intervention and better implementation of environmental and climate legislation.

Speakers:

- Pierre Bascou, Director of the Sustainability Directorate, Directorate-General of Agriculture & Rural Development, European Commission
- Stijn Bossin, Coordinator of the Innovation Support Centre for Agriculture & Rural Development in Belgium
- Aard Mulders, Subject Manager, Green Architecture NSP, Nature & Biodiversity Department, Ministry of Agriculture Nature & Food Quality, The Netherlands

Moderator:

- Peter Baader, Senior Expert, Directorate-General of Agriculture & Rural Development, European Commission
-

Session 5.3 Copernicus and Galileo for environmental compliance assurance

In collaboration with the Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, European Commission

An interactive session where we will demonstrate and reflect on how the information obtained from our EU Space programme on Earth Observation and Global Navigation Satellite Systems (Copernicus/Galileo/EGNOS) contributes to geospatial intelligence for the implementation of EU environmental laws. Three cases, related to air quality, waste and nature protection show the potential of these space ‘tools’ for environment. A great opportunity to join this session, meet young innovative companies blending with government practises and participate with the audience to live feedback!

Speakers:

Moderator:

- Rene Wyndham, Moderators Europe
-

Session 5.4 Assessing environmental governance in the age of web portals

Good environmental governance, at all institutional levels, is fundamental in reaching environmental protection objectives. The concept of environmental governance encompasses aspects such as transparency, public participation, access to justice, and all the activities

13.03.19

undertaken by public authorities to ensure compliance with environmental legislation. The use of web-based tools is essential in all these areas.

Two projects have recently been carried out to research how environmental governance functions in Member States, to identify good practices and areas for improvement, one of them focusing on web portals in particular.

Starting with presentations by the consultants who performed the studies, Member State and NGO representatives, the session will engage in a discussion with the various stakeholders, looking at how environmental governance can be assessed, the benefits of doing so, and drawing lessons for the future.

Speakers:

- Martin Nesbit, Senior Fellow and Head of Climate and Environmental Governance Programme, Institute for European Environmental policy (IEEP)
- Jandirk Bulens, Researcher Geo-Info & Communication, Wageningen University & Research (WUR)
- Csaba Kiss, Environmental Attorney, Environmental Management & Law Association, Budapest, and Coordinator of the Justice & Environment Network of public interest environmental law organisations
- Valerie Doyle, Irish Environmental Protection Agency

Moderator:

- Robert Konrad, Head of Unit for Compliance & Better Regulation, Directorate-General for Environment, European Commission

Evening events

18:30 – 20:30 The LIFE Awards ceremony

Since its launch in 1992, LIFE – the EU funding instrument for the environment and climate action – has co-financed more than 4600 projects that have contributed to the implementation, updating and development of EU environmental and climate policy and legislation. From among the projects completed in 2018, the LIFE Awards will reward the most successful ones achieving the greatest benefits for the environment, the conservation of nature and biodiversity and the fight against climate change.

Awards presented by:

- Daniel Calleja Crespo, Director-General for Environment, European Commission

Moderator:

- Katrina Sichel, Wit and Word Communications
-

Friday 17 May 2019

Overview				
09:30 11:00	6.1 Environmental implementation and the judiciary	6.2 Getting to grips with electrical and electronic waste – steps to achieve mandatory EU targets	6.3 Cleaning the air, cutting industrial emissions	6.4 The space for NGO engagement in the implementation of environmental commitments
Coffee				
11:30 13:00	Closing session:			
Cocktail reception				

09.30 – 11.00

Session 6.1 Environmental implementation and the judiciary

Member States are primarily responsible for implementing EU rules correctly and ensuring that environmental standards required under EU law are complied with. Yet, the Commission may open formal infringement procedures if it considers a systemic breach of EU environmental law is being committed. If the European Court of Justice (EUCJ) confirms a breach of EU law, the Member State in question has to take action, to remedy the breach. However, this takes time and many obstacles have to be overcome to successfully bring a case before the EUCJ.

By giving the floor to EU environmental law practitioners (national and EU judges, lawyers, prosecutors), this session aims at answering the following questions: how to ensure that all relevant facts are duly collected? Is there a need for specialised courts /judges? Does a national judge need to be active and supply grievances not raised by a party to protect the environment? Are references for preliminary rulings sufficiently used? How to ensure a uniform interpretation and application of EU law?

Speakers:

- Christina Olsen Lundh, LL.M. LL.D Environmental Law, Judge at the Land and Environmental Court, District Court of Vänersborg, and Adjunct Senior Lecturer, Department of Law, University of Gothenburg
- Prof. Dr. Luc Lavrysen, President of the EU Forum Judges for the Environment & Judge in the Belgian Constitutional Court
- Anne Brosnan, President of Environmental Prosecutors Network (ENPE) & Deputy Director (Chief Prosecutor) Legal Services, Environment Agency, UK
- Matthias Keller, Presiding Judge at the Administrative Law Court, Aachen

Moderator:

Session 6.2 Getting to grips with electrical and electronic waste – steps to achieve mandatory EU targets

Electrical and electronic waste (WEEE) is one of the fastest growing waste streams in the EU, with some 12 million tonnes generated per year.

WEEE is a complex mixture of materials and components, some of them being scarce and expensive and others having hazardous content. Therefore, good management of electrical and electronic waste is crucial to contribute to a circular economy, enhance resource efficiency and prevent major environmental and health problems. Proper implementation of the EU's WEEE legislation, which sets out ambitious targets for collection, preparation for re-use and recycling of WEEE, will contribute to the transition to a circular economy.

This session will aim at presenting and discussing best practice in the management of WEEE, including prevention and allowing people to learn from each other to achieve the mandatory EU targets.

Speakers:

Moderator:

- Katrina Sichel, Wit and Word Communications
-

Session 6.3 Cleaning the air, cutting industrial emissions

This session will explore lessons learned and ways forward for better implementation of clean air and industrial emissions policies. It will showcase some best practices and collect ideas for improvement. Practitioners will be interviewed about their experiences, e.g. of how to bring relevant actors to the table for better cooperation, how to use facts to build awareness, how setting EU standards promotes environmental improvement and how EU funding can trigger innovation that in turn can lead to new and improved emission standards and an improved clean air policy. In between these micro-interviews, the audience will be invited to participate and add examples and innovative ideas.

Speakers:

- Katia Raffaelli, Project Manager of LIFE IP PREPAIR, Emilia-Romagna Region, Italy
- Jakub Achrer, Head of Unit for Non-Combustion Plants & Deputy Director of the Air Protection Department, Czech Republic Ministry of Environment
- Prof. dr.ir. Filip Meysman, Department of Biology – Ecosystem Management research Group, University of Antwerp

Moderator:

- Peter Woodward, Quest Associates
-

Session 6.4 The space for NGO engagement in the implementation of environmental commitments.

Lessons from NGOs across Europe and future outlook

In collaboration with the European Environmental Bureau

NGOs play an important role in highlighting problems with the implementation of EU environmental laws within and across the EU. They provide expertise knowledge to authorities and investigators, being well acquainted with the realities on the ground, and represent the interest of, and are the voice for, the environment. The added value of involving NGOs in

13.03.19

improving implementation of EU environmental laws in the Member States and at local level is clear, and therefore conditions for allowing NGOs to play their part need to be guaranteed.

Yet NGOs not only experience differences in how laws are implemented, but also experience differences in their own treatment vis-à-vis public authorities, notably engagement in participation and legal standing, which has a knock-on effect on environmental protection. This session will discuss the mechanisms in place for allowing NGO engagement in implementation and which systems need to be strengthened, as without addressing these, environmental protection in the EU will remain uneven. The session will address a wide range of environmental problems, with specific examples given in the areas of biodiversity, chemicals and water

Speakers:

Moderator:

11.30 – 13.00

Closing session

With the European elections fast approaching, EU Green Week 2019 closes with a look to the future, and an examination of the place of EU environmental policy in the wider context of EU legislation. What are the main take-aways, and what lessons can be learned? Are there obvious pitfalls to be avoided? Can policymakers do more to involve citizens in the process of implementation? And in a time of mounting Euroscepticism, can environmental policy help demonstrate the added value of policymaking at the EU level?

Speakers:

- Karmenu Vella, Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs & Fisheries, European Commission
- Simona Bonafe, MEP
- Laurent Fabius, President of the Constitutional Council of the French Republic
- Karl-Heinz Lambertz, President of the European Committee of the Regions

Moderator:

- Aminda Leigh, Moderators Europe
-