

PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION

Towards sustainable business: Assessing and tackling ethical gaps in the new EU sustainability ecosystem

29 September 2021, 12:00 - 13:30, [Admission: 11:30; Press interviews 13:30-14:00]
at the **Press Club Brussels** and **online via live-stream**.

[Register here](#)

The **Economy for the Common Good (ECG)** and **OXFAM Novib**, with the collaboration of **Future-Fit, Frank Bold** and the **Alliance for Corporate Transparency (ACT)** invite you to join a discussion on the most contentious issues in the EU sustainability instruments and initiatives.

Most companies in the EU do not disclose relevant sustainability information, covering environmental impacts, social and human rights and other ethical issues. Given the urgency to address global challenges and the increasing interest in companies' sustainability performance, there is an urgent need to significantly extend reporting obligations in addition to due diligence requirements. Especially the proposal for a Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD), which significantly revises and expands on the existing Non-Financial Reporting Directive (NFRD) disclosure rules for corporates, could have groundbreaking effects. However, many gaps and weaknesses remain in the current proposal and, if unamended, may not lead to the significant change that society needs.

The event will provide an overview of the most contentious points in the CSRD proposal and give suggestions to strengthen the legislation. It will examine how EU policymakers, member states as well as NGO representatives can support the EU sustainability initiatives, with a focus on how to provide more pertinent, reliable, and comparable data. It will also explore the interlinkages between the proposal and the Commission's set of instruments to increase corporate transparency and accountability.

The following topics will be discussed in the event:

- 1. Overview of EU sustainability instruments and initiatives**
- 2. What are the most contentious issues in the CSRD proposal in terms of scope, content, auditing, impact, and standard setting? How can they be addressed?**
- 3. How to ensure that the most ambitious social and ecological standards of existing frameworks will be used?**
- 4. How will civil society participation be ensured in the standard setting process?**
- 5. Way forward: Concrete recommendations for EU policymakers**

Agenda and Speakers

11:30-12:00	Admission
Opening	
Bridget Knapper, Economy for the Common Good (ECG)	
Susanna Arus, Frank Bold/Alliance for Corporate Transparency	
Keynotes	
Antje von Dewitz, CEO of VAUDE	
Pascal Durand, Member of the European Parliament (Renew)	
Panel Discussion and Q & A	
With	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sirpa Pietikäinen, Member of the European Parliament (EPP)• Antje Schneeweiß, Managing Director of Arbeitskreis Kirchlicher Investoren (AKI)• Caroline Avan, Oxfam Corporate Governance Advocacy Officer• Tom Dodd, Representative of the European Commission, DG FISMA	
Moderated by Christian Felber, Founder of the Economy for the Common Good	
Conclusion	
Martin Rich, Co-Founder of Future-Fit Foundation	
13:30 - 14:00	Press Q&A and interviews

For travelers to Belgium, don't forget to fill in your Passenger Locator Form in the 48h before you arrive. During the event, please post questions and observations using the hashtag #CorpReportingGaps and keep an eye on the Twitter handle @EconCommonGood. If you wish to be kept up to date on the ECG, subscribe to the newsletter: <https://www.ecogood.org/get-involved/newsletter>

About the Economy for the Common Good

The Economy for the Common Good (ECG) is a social movement advocating for a future-fit economic model which is beneficial to all stakeholders of an organization: employees, suppliers, customers, business partners, the local community and society at large, as well as the Planet and future generations. It is a model which puts the Common Good, meaning the well-being of the people and the respect for all life, as its primary goal and purpose. The ECG movement is constantly growing and gaining supporter sacross EU Member States. So far, 800 organizations, mainly companies, but also schools, universities, municipalities, and cities, have used our Common Good Balance sheet as a means to do their "non- financial" reporting, including to meet their obligations under the current Non-Financial Reporting Directive. Further Information: [ecogood.org](https://www.ecogood.org)

For questions about the Economy for the Common Good and the event or interview requests, please contact:

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