

HIGH-LEVEL PLENARY

Resilient and Inclusive Supply Chains

14 OCTOBER 2021, 11:30-13:00 CET

Register

CONTEXT

In the face of a climate crisis and weakened social cohesion, **the European SDG Summit 2021 calls for renewed ambition, mobilisation, leadership, and collective action to build a prosperous and inclusive society while pursuing a green, and digital transition.**

2020 has bluntly forced the world to recognize the need to accelerate the journey towards climate neutrality and the urgency for the adoption of an inclusive approach to the green, digital, and demographic transition. In this context, **businesses have a key responsibility and role to play to embed societal concerns in their governance, priorities, models, and their approach to finance.** Business transformation requires more than individual company efforts. Industry sector dialogues and alliances, impact-oriented actions and new forms of PPPs are key to bring change in our ecosystems and to enhance the livelihoods of citizens, workers, and consumers. This is what the European Pact for Sustainable Industry is all about.

2021 seems to be the year of due diligence. The respect for human rights, environmental protection and inclusion is expressed through various EU policies and proposals for regulation: e.g. a Sustainable Corporate Governance Initiative, that will include a mandatory corporate environmental and human rights due diligence, the Revision of the Non-Financial Reporting Directive, a future EU Social Taxonomy. This should reinforce the geopolitical role of the European Commission, as the COVID-19 pandemic has shown how critical it is to support the most vulnerable across the whole value chain.

In this session we will test how much the EU is willing to go beyond corporate compliance through the new due diligence legislation and decide on **strategic accompanying measures** to support continuous transformation of supply chains and collaborative efforts for long-standing impact of the eco-systems companies are sourcing from. The real challenge is two-fold: to build a larger playing field on due diligence at the European and international level and to empower actors and industry federations to develop collaborative solutions that can enhance the livelihoods of workers, farmers and miners.

ABOUT THIS SESSION

Joining this session will allow you to:

- better understand how the policy developments on transparency will substantially change how multinational companies address the impact of their value chain.
- listen to people in the field on what they expect from companies' sustainable supply chain efforts.
- hear from leading companies how their due diligence approaches lead to change.
- know how the Due Diligence legislation can drive impact and change when made coherent with other policies on trade, sustainable finance, and corporate non-financial disclosure.
- learn about international collaborative platforms and alliances that transform value chains beyond due diligence through sector dialogues and scalable capacity building of local eco-systems.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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TIME	AGENDA ITEM	HIGH-LEVEL PANELISTS
11:30 – 11:35	<p>Welcome <i>Enhancing the livelihoods of workers, farmers and miners</i></p>	<p>Stefan Crets, Executive Director, CSR Europe</p>
11:35 – 11:40	<p>Keynote Address <i>The year of Due Diligence</i></p>	<p>Didier Reynders <i>Commissioner for Justice, European Commission</i></p>
11:40 – 11:50		<p>Jean-Dominique Takis Kumbo <i>General Director, Entreprise General du Cobalt</i></p>
11:50 – 12:35	<p>Panel Discussion Moderated by Jan Noterdaeme, Senior Advisor, CSR Europe</p> <p><i>Embedding environment and human rights in the supply chains:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The challenges ahead for businesses and the need for collaboration</i> • <i>How do we invest in supply chain</i> • <i>The role of development cooperation and public-private partnerships in achieving results in partner countries</i> 	<p>Kerstin Jorna, <i>Director General, DG GROW, European Commission</i></p> <p>Renata Jungo Brüngger <i>Member of the Board of Management, Integrity and Legal Affairs, Daimler AG</i></p> <p>Heske Verburg <i>Managing Director, Solidaridad Europe</i></p> <p>Eva Bennis <i>Director of Responsible Purchasing, Volvo group</i></p>
12:35 – 12:45	<p>The way forward</p>	<p>Olivier De Schutter <i>Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, UNHR Professor, UCLouvain and Science Po</i></p>
12:45 – 12:55		<p>Koen Doens <i>Director General DG INTPA</i></p>
12:55 - 13:00	<p>Closing Address</p>	<p>Stefan Crets, Executive Director, CSR Europe</p>

