

EUROPEAN SDG ROUNDTABLE

The Role of ESG in SMEs' Green and Just Transition

Tuesday, 11 October 2022 | 14:00 -15:30 CET

CONTEXT:

Over 22 million Small-and-Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are active in Europe. As the old continent accelerates the transition to a carbon-neutral economy by 2050, **SMEs play a key role in the adoption of more sustainable business models and raising awareness locally.**

To support SME's green and digital transition, the European Commission aims to increase their access to sustainable finance through the [Revised Sustainable Finance Strategy](#) and new proportional reporting requirements.

Nevertheless, a large majority of SMEs is still not aware about available ESG products and tools. Specific support in the form of **advisory services, training, and tailored financial solutions is therefore needed.**

ABOUT THE SESSION:

[Join this roundtable](#) to understand the **main ESG drivers and challenges to finance SMEs' green and digital transition.** We will address how investors and stakeholders can support SMEs in their journey towards sustainability and how to leverage SMEs' awareness and access to sustainable finance.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

- SMEs Representatives & CEOs.
- Asset Managers, banks & Investors.
- EU Policy Makers.
- Sustainability Managers & Consultants.

CONTACT:

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TIME (CET)	AGENDA ITEM	GUEST SPEAKERS & PANELISTS
14:00 -14:05	Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ilaria Orsi <i>Project Manager,</i> CSR Europe
14:05 -14:15	Opening intervention: Trends & drivers of SMEs' transition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miriam Koreen, <i>Senior Counsellor on SMEs,</i> OECD
14:15 -14:45	Panel Discussion: The role of stakeholders in supporting SMEs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ana Aleman, <i>Global Sustainability Manager for Enterprises,</i> BBVA Florian Schmalz, <i>Policy Advisor,</i> EuroChambres Paul Gisby, <i>Senior Manager,</i> Accountancy Europe
14:45 -15:10	Best practices: Experiences from the frontline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elisa Rotta, <i>Program Manager,</i> Fondazione Sodalitas Giordano Sassaroli, <i>Head of Product Development and Management,</i> Elite Euronext
15:10 -15:25	Conclusive keynote: EU priorities & upcoming developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anja Nagel, <i>Policy Officer Sustainable Finance DG Grow,</i> European Commission
15:25 -15:30	Conclusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ilaria Orsi <i>Project Manager,</i> CSR Europe



The European SDG Summit

TOGETHER FOR AN INCLUSIVE GREEN DEAL | 10-12 OCTOBER 2022

ABOUT THE EUROPEAN SDG SUMMIT 2022

Ahead of the 27th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27) in Egypt, CSR Europe and its members are happy to welcome you at [the European SDG Summit 2022: Together for an Inclusive Green Deal](#).

After the pandemic and amid the outbreak of the war in Ukraine, the world needs to accelerate the journey towards climate neutrality and the adoption of an inclusive approach to the green and digital transition. Together with Environment and Governance, the **Social dimension of ESG** is now well understood as an equally important driver to enhance sustainability, but more attention is needed on how to address inequalities. The scale and magnitude of the effort ahead require not only individual commitments but also collaborative actions from all stakeholders.

At the Summit, CSR Europe will also release the second edition of the **European Sustainable Industry Barometer** in collaboration with **Moody's ESG Solutions**. The Barometer will provide data on the sustainability level and maturity of European industry federations, with a focus on the **social dimension of their ESG efforts**, demonstrating the progresses made and where additional efforts are needed.