

CONCEPT NOTE

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 and digital transition. The pandemic and its fallout exposed deep divisions within society, affecting the most vulnerable people. Already in 2015, the Paris Agreement recognized how shifting towards a resilient, carbon-neutral economy would boost prosperity and drive net job creation long-term. However, for the twin transition to succeed, climate action needs to be fair in the short- and medium-term.

In this context, **businesses have a key role to play**. As outlined in the <u>CSR Europe 2030 Strategy</u>, companies are uniquely positioned to provide innovative solutions to meet present and future sustainability challenges. They can drive social, environmental, and economic progress, contributing to the creation of a fair and equal society in which everyone can thrive. Society's concerns can be embedded in business priorities, business models, in a sustainable approach to investments and finance, and – last but not least – in enhanced collaboration between companies and their stakeholders. In the face of a climate crisis and weakened social cohesion, we need to step up our efforts now.

For this reason, in 2021, the European SDG Summit will be back on 11th, 12th and 14th October with a new virtual and fully open edition. Over the course of 30 sessions, businesses, industry federations, and EU policymakers will engage in action-oriented dialogue to conciliate a just transition with climate action to address one pressing question: how can we build a prosperous and inclusive society while pursuing a green and digital transition?

Last year, we launched the **European Pact for Sustainable Industry**, a public campaign to make the European Green Deal and its Climate Pact a success by scaling up the impact of individual efforts made by companies, industry federations and EU leaders. **This year CSR Europe will release the first Sustainable Industry Barometer together with Moody's Vigeo Eiris.** The Barometer will provide data on the sustainability level and maturity of European industry federations, demonstrating the progresses made and where additional efforts are needed.

If your enterprise or industry federation is eager to put sustainability, innovation, science, technology, responsibility, and growth at the service of a healthier, more human business model, then join us for this unique Rendez-Vous.

Every day the Summit will have in programme 1 high-level plenary session, 3 European SDG Roundtables, 3 Industry SDG Roundtables, and 3 National SDG Roundtables. Thousands of change makers will come together with one purpose: take swift, unified, and collaborative actions for a just transition that connects climate action with the need for an inclusive economy and sustainable development.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

About participating to the sessions-please contact Hana Kreso

About sponsoring the event- check our Sponsorship Package