Next MFF: incentives and safeguards for climate friendly investments

Brussels, 26 March 2013

AGENDA

18:30 Introduction

Jutta HAUG, Member of the European Parliament

Artur RUNGE-METZGER, Director "International & Climate Strategy", DG Climate Action, European Commission

18:45 PRESENTATIONS

From climate considerations to investment decision: applying experience from Financial Institutions to the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)

Adarsh VARMA, Principal Consultant, Ricardo-AEA, Climate, Energy and Environment Consultancy

What is already practice: incorporating climate into economic appraisal of infrastructure projects

Matthew ARNDT, Head "Environment, Climate and Social Office", Projects Directorate, European Investment Bank

Best use of financial instruments to mainstream climate issues in next MFF

Axel VOLKERY, Senior Fellow and Head of the Environmental Governance programme, Institute for European Environmental Policy

From financial instruments in current Structural Funds to next MFF

Wolfgang MUNCH, Team Leader "Major Projects Group", DG Regional And Urban Policy, European Commission

19:15 MODERATED Q&A

Moderator: Mette Koefoed QUINN, Team Coordinator of Climate Finance, DG Climate Action, European Commission

With participation of experts:

Michael WILKINS, Managing Director of Environmental Finance, S&P

Paul SIMPSON, Chief Executive Officer, Carbon Disclosure Project

Kay PARPLIES, Deputy Head of Unit "Coordination with the EIB Group, EBRD and IFIs", DG Economic and Financial Affairs, European Commission

19:50 CLOSING REMARKS

Caroline LAMBERT, Member of Cabinet of Commissioner Connie HEDEGAARD – Climate Action

20:00 DRINKS AND NETWORKING

Venue European Parliament

ALTIERO SPINELLI BUILDING (meeting room A3H1, third floor)

Rue Wiertz 60, B-1040 Brussels

Background

Climate policy is a cross-cutting objective in the 2014-2020 EU Multi-annual Financial Framework (MFF). The European Parliament and Member States clearly agree that the MFF should be aligned to the priorities of the Europe 2020 Strategy and that at least 20% of the expenditure should target climate-related activities. But it is clear that substantial private finance needs to be mobilised in order to match the amount of investment required for the transition towards a low-carbon and climate-resilient economy. The EU plans to expand the use of financial instruments (FIs) in order to leverage private capital for low carbon and climate resilient actions.

A significant level of investments in infrastructure will be implemented across sectors, e.g. through the new Connecting Europe Facility or the Major Projects financed by the Structural Funds. It is important that these investments address the long term concerns of climate change and are low carbon and climate resilient.

Presentations and discussions will look into whether we can expect a greater role of innovative financial instruments in terms of low-carbon, climate-resilient finance in the next MFF and to what extent the proposed instruments for the 2014-2020 MFF will help address specific barriers and better respond to low-carbon, climate-resilient investment needs in key sectors such as energy, buildings, transport, agriculture and water. The meeting will also show examples of how Financial institutions such as the European Investment Bank are including climate change considerations into their investment portfolios, in particular in the energy and transport sectors.