

Agenda of:

International Forum of R&D for Eco-innovation:
Research for combining environmental priorities with economic opportunities

Day 1, Thursday	
9:00 – 10:00	Registration
10.00 – 10:45	Opening Session :
	Strengthening the role of R&D in boosting eco-innovation –key note speeches, Presentation of the forum objectives and sessions
10:45. – 12:45	Thematic Session 1: Research needs to meet the challenges of the EU Climate and Energy Package
	<p>In December 2008 a comprehensive package of emission-cutting measures was approved. The plan sets up three ambitious quantitative targets described as 3x20:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ reduce greenhouse gases at least 20% by 2020 (compared with 1990 levels), ▪ reduce energy consumption by 20% through increased energy efficiency ▪ meet 20% of our energy needs from renewable sources. <p>Additionally, within the drive for more renewable energy, a target of 10% of fuel for transport originating from biofuels, electricity or hydrogen has been set up.</p> <p>These targets are also a challenge for the future R&D agenda in this area. Examples of future research areas to be discussed during this session include, zero emission plants, integration of renewable energy sources into the electricity network/systems for massive storage of renewable energy , increasing energy efficiency in construction, transport and industry (especially in traditional sectors), second-generation biofuels, capture, transport and storage of CO₂</p>
12:45 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 15:30	Thematic session 2: Research needs to meet the challenges of the new Waste Directive
	<p>The new Waste Directive foresees a new approach to waste management based on prevention of adverse impacts of waste generation and management to human health and the environment, and aiming to limit the production of waste, as well as encouraging the use of waste as a resource by recycling and recovery. The new legislation specifies targets for re-use and recycling of waste to be attained by 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a 50% re-use and recycling of waste materials such as paper, metal glass from households and similar waste streams ▪ a 70% re-use and recycling of non hazardous construction and demolition waste <p>Meeting these objectives requires building an interdisciplinary knowledge that will help address issues on the side of waste management technologies , material sciences and resource efficiency including such topics as changing incineration from disposal into a recovery option, development of new generation, costs effective waste management facilities , closing the loop of waste material uses, better understanding of the CO₂ and other environmental impacts of the whole lifecycle of materials to avoid turning material recycling into high CO₂ generating processes, reducing material intensity and extending product durability, related social and economic issues</p>
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee break
16:00 – 18:00	Thematic session 3: Research needs to increase water efficiency: alternative water supply systems
	<p>From the environmental point of view water reuse can reduce demand for fresh water resources, diversify water sources and enhance reliability of access to resource; it can reduce volume of wastewater discharged into the environment. However one of the key issues related to increasing the efficiency of water is to determine the optimal scale of wastewater reuse, from a technical, socio-economic, environmental and institutional perspective. Therefore research is needed to collect evidence and bring more light on such issues as: new technologies for decentralised water systems, decentralised systems in urban areas – alternatives for new developments, rainwater/stormwater management, grey-water treatment and reuse, advanced treatment technologies for extending the use of reclaimed water as well as social issues related to the use of alternative water sources.</p>
18:00 – 19:00	Networking cocktail
Day 2, Friday	
9:00 – 11:00	Thematic Session 4 Improving the governance of research for eco-innovation
	Although there is a number of initiatives and R&D programmes ongoing on regional, national, and international level to boost eco-innovations, a discussion is needed on how to build a more systematic approach and improve the research governance to capitalise on the work done so far.
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 – 13:30	Closing Session : Wrapping up: conclusions and developing recommendations
	Presentation of the outcomes from the thematic sessions , working out recommendations on research needs, panel discussion of the results.