

European Parliament Intergroups dealing with the development of rural areas

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Background

The Union shall work for the **sustainable development of Europe** based on balanced **economic growth** and **price stability**, a highly competitive social market economy, aiming at **full employment** and **social progress**, and a high level of **protection and improvement of the quality of the environment**.

Article 3 (3) of the Treaty of Lisbon



EP Intergroup on Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development

- Approach: Adopting a multi-stakeholder approach and bringing together MEPs from all political groups, representatives from the European Commission, Member States, and EU Presidency and key stakeholders, such as NGOs, private sector, and industry representatives, scientists, and civil society
- Aim: looking into the solutions and opportunities provided by different sectors to address today's and tomorrow's environmental and socio-economic challenges and growth, competitiveness and jobs.
- Chair: MEP Pavel Poc
- Stakeholders involved: Copa and Cogeca, CEPF, Eustafor



EP Intergroup on Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development

- **11 Working Groups chaired by 17 vice chairs (MEPs)**
- **Working Groups relevant in the context of rural development**
 - Agriculture & Water Management
 - Bioeconomy
 - Sustainable Forest Management



EP Intergroup on Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development

Working Group on Agriculture & Water Management

- Main priorities
 - CAP/RDP implementation
 - Soil protection
 - Air quality and impact of agriculture
 - Genetic diversity of crops and livestock
 - Sustainable agricultural practices
- Permanent round table on RD policy implementation
- A first meeting foreseen in December on Enhancing the multifunctional role of agriculture and forestry
- <http://ebcd.org/intergroup/structure/agriculture-water-management/>



EP Intergroup on Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development

Working Group on Bioeconomy

- Main priorities
 - Benefits of bioeconomy/address multi-sectorial dimensions
 - Sustainable production of renewable biological resources and their conversion
 - Mobilising renewable energy resources
 - Optimising land-use and food security
 - Boosting competitiveness of rural areas of Europe
 - Climate change mitigation
 - Circular economy
- 12 organisations supporting the promotion of bioeconomy at EU-level
- <http://ebcd.org/intergroup/structure/bioeconomy/>



EP Intergroup on Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development

Working Group on Sustainable Forest Management

- Main priorities
 - Follow-up on the new EU Forest Strategy
 - Multifunctional and sustainable forest management (SFM)
 - Vital and healthy forest ecosystems for providing services to society and environment
 - Competitiveness of forest/forest-based sector and its key role towards an EU bioeconomy and rural development
 - Climate Change
 - Research & Innovation
 - Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services
- Next meeting scheduled for end of November 2015:
Europe's forests in the sustainability spotlight
- <http://ebcd.org/intergroup/structure/sustainable-forest-management/>

EP Intergroup “Biodiversity, Hunting, Countryside”



- Aim: highlighting the clear interaction between sustainable management of territories and the enhancement of wildlife and biodiversity, while promoting a thriving countryside
- Stakeholders involved: ELO and FACE
- Topics addressed: forestry management, Natura 2000, climate change, wildlife population, the 2020 Biodiversity Strategy; cross cutting issues which have an impact on socio economic activities in rural areas are also addressed on a regular basis.
- The next Intergroup meeting will focus on the EU Fitness Check on EU nature legislation (20th October 2015).
- <http://www.face.eu/about-us/face-the-eu/hunting-intergroup>
- <http://www.europeanlandowners.org/intergroup>