



# **POSITIONING EUROPE IN GLOBAL SCIENCE:**

## ***Priorities for research to achieve sustainable solutions***

**Tuesday 3 February 2015**  
**13:30 – 15:00**  
**Room A8F 388**  
**European Parliament, Brussels**

Dialogue Session hosted by

### **MEP Paul Rübiger**

Chair of the European Parliament Scientific and Technology Option Assessment (STOA),  
Chair of the “Research & Innovation” Working Group of the EP Intergroup *Climate Change, Biodiversity  
and Sustainable Development*

#### **AGENDA**

##### **Objectives of the meeting:**

- Gain insights from MEPs and EU policy makers on strategic priorities for European research leading to sustainable solutions, building on a global agenda recently published by Future Earth
- Discuss challenges for sustainable development requiring science-based approaches
- Foster a dialogue between policy-makers and researchers about how to sustain European competitiveness and position European research in providing solutions to support transitions to sustainable development

This event will bring together members of the European Parliament (EP), European and international institutions and research funders with researchers from Future Earth.

Future Earth is the global research platform providing the knowledge and support to accelerate transformations to a sustainable world. In December 2014, following a global consultation process with scientists and societal stakeholders, Future Earth published a [Strategic Research Agenda 2014](#). This event will identify strategic priorities for European research and innovation, building on this agenda.

The European Commission, together with other major global research funders, is committed to aligning its research funding programmes to societal problems and the search for practical solutions. In line with the goals of Horizon2020, Future Earth links excellent global science with innovation in order to build and connect knowledge to tackle societal challenges.

The event is organised in view of a number of important new global agreements on climate, disaster risk reduction and the Sustainable Development Goals expected in 2015. Scientific research is critical to the success of these agreements, and science and innovation in Europe will play a crucial role.

#### **Contact:**

Paolo Mattana, Secretariat of the Intergroup, [paolo.mattana@ebcd.org](mailto:paolo.mattana@ebcd.org), + 32 2 230 30 70

12:20-12:45 – **Registration, Altiero Spinelli building, Place du Luxembourg**

12:45-13:30 – **Networking lunch**

13:30-13:35 Welcome address by **MEP Paul Rübiger**, Chair of the European Parliament Scientific and Technology Option Assessment (STOA), and Chair of the 'Research & Innovation' Working Group of the *EP Intergroup Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development*

13:35-13:45 **Introduction to Future Earth:**

**Kurt Vandenberghe**, Director, European Commission, Research and Innovation, and co-Chair, the Belmont Forum

13:45-13:55 **Professor Frans Berkhout**, interim Director, Future Earth  
*The Strategic Research Agenda 2014 - Towards priorities for a global sustainability research strategy*

13:55-14:55 **Dialogue session on solutions-led science in Europe and the world:**

- *What are the key sustainability challenges that are relevant for Europe to be addressed by Future Earth research?*
- *Where and how could Europe make a difference for the global sustainable development agenda?*
- *How do we mobilise researchers across Europe to engage with solution-oriented research?*
- *What do politicians and policy-makers expect from a global initiative like Future Earth?*

with interventions by:

#### **Members of the European Parliament**

**Ulf Björnholm Ottosson**, Head of Office, Brussels Liaison Office to the EU Institutions, United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)

**Professor Corinne Le Queré**, Global Carbon Project and Director of Tyndall Centre, East Anglia University

**Professor Frank Biermann**, Earth Systems Governance Project and Institute of Environmental Studies, VU University Amsterdam

**Farooq Ullah**, Executive Director of the Stakeholders Forum for a Sustainable Future

14:55-15:00 Conclusions by **MEP Paul Rübiger**

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