

A decade after the Paris Agreement was signed, how can its social dimension be strengthened further to support an inclusive and just transition for all?

Ten years on, the Paris Agreement stands as a cornerstone of global climate action. Yet, much more remains to be done to fulfil its promise. This event will focus on its social dimension, emphasising the need to strengthen its social foundation – human rights, just transition, and inclusive participation – to ensure that the Agreement remains relevant and ambitious. Placing people at the centre of climate policies is essential to achieving equitable, resilient, and lasting results.

While the technical and mitigation frameworks of the Paris Agreement have advanced, the success of climate action now hinges on a deeper challenge: securing broad political and social acceptance of the profound changes the climate transition entails. The event aims to shift the conversation from traditional climate finance metrics to a people-centred perspective, highlighting the “people's dimension” as central to the Agreement’s success. It also reflects and aligns with the CEB’s role as the social development bank for Europe in advancing the social dimension of climate action by supporting projects that promote a just and equitable transition across its member countries. The discussions will highlight the direct link between climate action, human well-being, equity and public support. It will showcase the role of institutional priorities, policy coherence, and community-led initiatives in securing broad social support for delivering on the promise of the Paris Agreement.

AGENDA

15:00 – 15:20 Introductory remarks

Speakers:

- **Carlo Monticelli**, Governor, CEB
- **Francesco Gaeta**, Director, Directorate for European and International Action, Ministry of Ecological Transition, Biodiversity, and International Negotiations on Climate and Nature, France

15:20 – 15:35 Fireside chat

Discussion between **Mario Nava** (Director-General, DG for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, EU Commission) and **Sandrine Gaudin** (Vice-Governor, CEB)

15:35 – 16:20 Panel 1 – Social goals of the Paris Agreement: Why should they continue to matter?

Moderator: **Léna Spinazzé**, Deputy Director, Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI)

Panellists:

- **Moustapha Kamal Gueye**, Director of ILO Priority Action Programme on Just Transitions Towards Environmentally Sustainable Economies and Societies, ILO
- **Kumi Kitamori**, Acting Director, Environment Directorate, OECD
- **Jean-François Soussana**, President, Haut Conseil pour le Climat
- **Paul Watkinson**, Chief negotiator for the French climate delegation and lead negotiator during COP21

16:20 – 16:30 Q&A

16:30 – 16:40 Coffee/tea break

16:40 – 17:25 Panel 2 – Turning the Paris Agreement's social vision into action

Moderator: **Louise Kessler**, Program Director of Economy, Steering tools, Financing the transition, Institute for Climate Economics (I4CE)

Panellists:

- **Tanja Faller**, Director of Technical Assessment and Monitoring, CEB
- **Nathalie Lhayani**, Chief Sustainability Officer, Groupe Caisse des Dépôts
- **Christophe Yvetot**, Representative to the European Union, the European Investment Bank, OACPS, Belgium and Luxembourg, UNIDO

17:25 – 17:35 Q&A

17:35 – 17:40 Intervention of the Young Climate Ambassador for France

Speaker: **Lou Stührenberg**, Young Climate Ambassador for France

17:40 – 17:50 Concluding remarks

Speaker: **Sandrine Gaudin**, Vice-Governor, CEB

17:50 – 19:30 Cocktail reception





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SPEAKERS

Keynote speakers



	<p>Francesco Gaeta, Director, Directorate for European and International Action, Ministry of Ecological Transition, Biodiversity, and International Negotiations on Climate and Nature, France</p> <p>Francesco Gaeta, Senior Administrator, has been Director of European and International Action since September 2019. In this role, he ensures the overall coordination and consistency of the positions and initiatives put forward in international forums by the ministerial department and by the public institutions under its supervision. Before joining the ministry, he was Deputy Secretary General at the SGAE, an agency reporting to the Prime Minister and responsible for coordinating and establishing French positions on initiatives promoted by the European Union. Previously, he worked at the Permanent Representation of France to the EU in Brussels as a negotiating advisor responsible for land and maritime transport. He was subsequently appointed coordinator of the sustainable development division within the same Representation. After graduating from ENA in 2004, he joined the Directorate General for Roads at the Ministry of Transport as head of European and international affairs before moving to the Directorate for Transport Infrastructure when the ministry was reorganised.</p>
	<p>Carlo Monticelli, Governor of the CEB</p> <p>Carlo Monticelli, an Italian economist, was elected Governor of the Council of Europe Development Bank in June 2021 and began his five-year term in December 2021 after six years as Vice-Governor for Financial Strategy. Previously, he spent over a decade at the Italian Treasury, representing Italy in key international fora including the G7, G20, IMFC, FSB and OECD, and serving as Alternate Governor to major development banks. His earlier career included senior roles at Deutsche Bank in London and the Bank of Italy. Monticelli holds a PhD in Economics, an MSc from the University of York, and pursued postgraduate studies at Oxford. A published author and lecturer, he taught at the Graduate Institute, MIT, and currently at Sciences Po.</p>
	<p>Mario Nava, Director General, Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion of the European Commission, European Commission</p> <p>Mario Nava is Director-General of the European Commission's DG EMPL, following his tenure as Director-General of DG REFORM. Since joining the Commission in 1994, he has held numerous senior roles in financial regulation, including Director for horizontal policies, Director for financial system surveillance and crisis management, and Director for prudential supervision of financial institutions. He also served as Head of units on banking conglomerates and market infrastructures, and worked in the Commission President's advisory group and in the Cabinet of the Competition Commissioner. Nava previously chaired the Italian Financial Market Authority. Alongside his institutional career, he teaches at Bocconi University and Solvay Business School and was named Bocconi Alumnus of the Year in 2023.</p>
	<p>Sandrine Gaudin, Vice-Governor, CEB</p> <p>Sandrine Gaudin was appointed Vice-Governor for Financial Strategy of the CEB in July 2022, beginning her five-year mandate on 1 August 2022. Before joining the Bank, she served as Secretary General for European Affairs and Advisor for Europe to the French Prime Minister from 2017 to 2022. Her earlier career spans senior roles in the French Ministries of Defence, Foreign Affairs, Economy and Finance, and the Treasury. She directed bilateral affairs and business internationalisation, led the Regional Economic Department at the French Embassy in London, and represented France at the European Investment Bank and the CEB. Gaudin also held multiple EU-focused positions, including at France's Permanent Representation in Brussels. She is a graduate of the École Nationale d'Administration, specialising in European and international law.</p>

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Moderators

	<p>Louise Kessler, Program Director of Economy, Steering tools, Financing the transition, Institute for Climate Economics (I4CE)</p> <p>Louise oversees applied research work on the economic instruments and public policies which can be mobilized to support and further the low-carbon transition. It includes analyses on the affordability of key transition solutions for French households.</p> <p>Before joining I4CE, Louise spent a couple of years at the economics consultancy Vivid Economics, where she managed projects for government institutions and international organizations on issues related to climate policies, the energy transition, and innovative financing mechanisms for adaptation and biodiversity.</p> <p>Louise holds a PhD in Environmental Economics delivered by the London School of Economics (LSE). Her PhD research focused on the economic implications of climate change uncertainties.</p>
	<p>Léna Spinazzé, Deputy Director, Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI)</p> <p>Léna Spinazzé is Deputy Director General of IDDRI, an international think tank based in Paris that promotes a fair society respecting planetary boundaries. She previously served as Director of Development (2019–2022) and Director of Communication (2014–2019). Before that, she spent 15 years advising private companies, notably as CEO of BeCitizen, where she helped them develop positive societal strategies. In 2012–2013, she organized the National Debate on Energy Transition, bringing together 150 stakeholders to make recommendations to the French government. Holding degrees in management (EM Lyon, 1996) and innovation through design (Ensci, 2019), she combines private and public sector expertise.</p>

Master of Ceremonies





	<p>Silvia Zucchini, Head of Communication, CEB</p> <p>Silvia Zucchini has been the Head of Communication of the CEB since June 2022. Previously, she served as Special Assistant to the Director of the IMF Europe Offices (in Paris and Brussels), where she was in charge of communication activities. In her career spanning over 20 years, she has established a strong track record in building, coordinating and executing communications strategies on complex economic and financial issues. Prior to the IMF – where Silvia held several positions in the Communications Department, Monetary and Capital Markets Department the Secretary's Department – Silvia worked for the OECD, the World Bank, the Italian Ministry of the Economy and Finance and the Italian Export Credit Agency. Silvia holds an MA in International Relations from Johns Hopkins University and a BA in Political Sciences from the University of Bologna. She is fluent in English, French, Italian and Spanish.</p>
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Panellists

	<p>Moustapha Kamal Gueye, Director of ILO Priority Action Programme on Just Transitions Towards Environmentally Sustainable Economies and Societies, ILO</p> <p>Dr Moustapha Kamal Gueye is Director, Priority Action Programme Just transitions towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies at the International Labour Organization (ILO). He was ILO Global Coordinator, Green Jobs Programme, from 2016 to 2023. Previously, he served as Head Green Economy Advisory Services at the United Nations Environment Programme and as a Senior Programme Manager at the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development in Geneva. Earlier, he spent twelve years across Asia working at the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies in Japan. Kamal started his career working for the UN Food and Agriculture Organization as a consultant on fisheries in West Africa. He serves in several boards and steering committees including the UNFCCC Katowice Committee of Experts; OECD Steering Committee on low-carbon transition in resource-rich developing countries, the UNEP GEO for Business, the Green Economy Coalition. He holds a Ph.D. from Nagoya University, Japan; DEA and LL.M from Dakar University; and Executive Certificates from the World Bank Institute; Columbia University; Foundation for Advanced Studies on International Development, Japan; and Integrated Research and Action for Development, India. He speaks Wolof, French, English, and Japanese.</p>
	<p>Tanja Faller, Director of Technical Assessment and Monitoring, CEB</p> <p>Member of the CEB's Management Committee, Ms. Faller joined the CEB in March 2024 as Director of the Technical Assessment and Monitoring Directorate. She brings a very strong background in advisory work, with over 20 years of experience in policy advisory and project finance. Her career spans the World Bank, African Development Bank, and Munich Re's MEAG, focusing on social infrastructure investment. At GIZ, she led teams on sustainable infrastructure, project structuring, and advisory services in education, microfinance, and health solutions. Ms Faller graduated with a master's degree in international finance and International Development from Johns Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) Washington DC, and holds an M.A. in Regional Science from the University of Cologne, Germany.</p>
	<p>Kumi Kitamori, Acting Director, Environment Directorate, OECD</p> <p>Kumi Kitamori is Deputy Director at the OECD Environment Directorate, which provides data, analyses and advice to governments on policies needed for a cleaner, resource-efficient and low-carbon green growth path. She has worked on issues including emissions trading, carbon pricing and taxes, water pricing, green finance and investment, climate change, biodiversity, chemical safety, among others. Earlier she worked at the World Bank on industrial pollution and urban environmental projects in South and Southeast Asia.</p>
	<p>Nathalie Lhayani, Chief Sustainability Officer, Groupe Caisse des Dépôts</p> <p>Nathalie Lhayani, born in 1975 in Tehran, has devoted 25 years to advancing sustainable economic and financial transformation at French, European, and international levels. After earning a postgraduate degree from the Geneva Graduate Institute, she worked at the WTO and the International Center for Trade and Sustainable Development on trade, sustainability, and financial services negotiations. She later held key roles in French and EU institutions, advising ministers and negotiating EU directives on climate ambition, CO₂ standards, deforestation, and sustainable finance. Since 2019, as Chief Sustainability Officer of Caisse des Dépôts Group, she has led its ecological transition strategy. She also promotes biodiversity, responsible investment, and broader sustainability coalitions.</p>

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Jean-François Soussana, Président, Haut Conseil pour le Climat (HCC)

Jean-François Soussana is Director of Research at INRAE in charge of international policy, having previously served as Scientific Director for the Environment. An agricultural engineer with a PhD in plant physiology, he has headed a research laboratory on ecosystems and global change. A member of the IPCC as a lead author since 1998, he coordinates national and European research projects, as well as international programs on agriculture, soils, and climate change. A highly cited researcher (2018), he has published more than 150 articles in international scientific journals. He shared the Nobel Peace Prize with the authors of the IPCC in 2007 and has received several national and international awards.



Paul Watkinson, Independent expert on climate and international relations, former chief negotiator for France and member of COP21 presidency

Paul Watkinson has a long high-level professional experience in France, Europe and internationally in the fields of climate change, sustainable development, multilateral diplomacy, public administration and policy development. He led the French delegation to the United Nations climate conferences for many years, was one of the lead negotiators of the European Union in those talks from Copenhagen in 2009 to Warsaw in 2013, and he was a senior member of the team that prepared and ran COP21 and enabled the adoption of the Paris Agreement in December 2015. He was elected chair of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice in 2018 and 2019. He has a strong personal commitment to a just transition to a sustainable future involving a deep transformation of economies and societies that is fair and equitable for all.

Climate Youth Delegate



Lou Stührenberg, Climate Youth Delegate for France

Lou Stührenberg has been a Climate Youth Delegate with the French delegation to the COP climate conferences for two years now. In this role, she works to establish and develop relations between the delegation and young civil society, so that the latter can make its voice heard in international arenas. As part of the Youth Ambassador for Climate and Biodiversity (JAC) association, she trains and educates young people throughout France on environmental issues and how COPs work. At the same time, she is pursuing a PhD at Mines Paris on the links between climate change mitigation scenarios and ecological transition governance practices.