



European Economic and Social Committee
Sustainable Development Observatory

Brussels, 2 August 2011

Dear Madam, dear Sir,

The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) has commissioned a study to the Environmental Policy Research Centre at the Freie Universität Berlin on "*Rio World Summit on Sustainable Development 2012 -Governance for a Green Economy*", part of which is a survey of current thinking and action by civil society actors on green economy issues.

This study explores

- how the different actors in civil society deal with sustainability issues in Europe,
- how the same actors integrate sustainability elements in their policies and actions and how they intervene to promote the transition towards a green economy,
- whether and what economic and governance frameworks are needed to strengthen their commitment and the evolution to the green economy,
- the best practices amongst the various civil society actors and in different European Member States and regions that can be promoted, shared or improved in cooperation with civil society partners around the globe.

The EESC as the European representative of organized civil society is interested in your views on the Green Economy. The result of this survey will inform the ongoing policy process in the European Union establishing the EU contribution to the UN Summit on Sustainable Development in June 2012. Your active participation in this survey would be of a great help.

Yours sincerely,

Hans-Joachim Wilms
President