



How can low carbon benchmarks contribute to the climate?

Monday 26th of November, 12h30-14h, European Parliament ASP3H1

Indicative programme:

12h30 – 12h40 - *Opening speech: MEP Neena Gill, rapporteur on the benchmark regulation*

12h40 – 13h20 - *1st panel: State of play: market realities and Commission's proposal*
Tilman Lueder, Head of Securities Markets Unit, DG FISMA, European Commission
Sebastien Lieblich, Managing Director, Equity Solutions, MSCI
Molly Scott-Cato, shadow rapporteur on the benchmark regulation

13h20 – 13h55 - *2nd panel: Next steps: what is needed and how to get there*
Jakob Thomaе, Managing Director, 2° Investing Initiative
Ladislav Smia, Co-head of Responsible Investment Research, Mirova
Sebastien Godinot, Head of sustainable finance unit, WWF

13h55 – 14h *Conclusion: MEP Neena Gill, rapporteur on the benchmark regulation*

Discussions will be held under Chatham House Rules
Lunch will be provided

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges of our time; the climate Paris Agreement set the objectives. But the EU economy currently suffers a 180 billion euro annual investment gap to meet its 2030 climate and energy targets. How to fill the gap? Benchmarks have a major impact on investments, but the integration of sustainability and climate considerations still remains limited in the market: the Index Industry Association estimates that Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) benchmarks represent 0,3% of the market.

As a follow up of the EU 'Action Plan: Financing Sustainable Growth', the Commission published in May 2018 a legislative proposal on low carbon benchmarks and positive carbon impact benchmarks. It aims to facilitate investments in sustainable projects and assets across the EU, by proposing to disclose how ESG factors are integrated in some categories of benchmarks, and introducing two climate benchmark categories.

The Parliament and the Council are now examining the proposal. The event will bring market experts and policy makers to exchange on the best ways forward to shape the benchmark regulation and contribute to climate mitigation.