

TIME TO INVEST IN A HEALTHY FUTURE: TIME FOR A GREEN & JUST RECOVERY

[French](#) [Spanish](#) [Portuguese](#)

We call upon EU and national leaders to tackle the unprecedented crisis caused by the Covid-19 pandemic with unity, courage and innovation.

During this time of crisis, which is taking the lives of many and putting people's livelihoods at risk, it is essential that our leaders issue a strong response. We therefore welcome the plans to make substantial funds available to fight the health emergency, tackle unemployment, and support Europe's small businesses, but more will be needed.

Millions of Europeans long for an end to the lockdown, to be reunited with our family and loved ones, and to get back to work. But we do not want a return to business as usual, to an economic model which has exacerbated social inequalities, jeopardised our health, and driven our planet's climate and nature to the brink of collapse. Instead, we believe that now is the time to radically and rapidly make our economies greener, fairer, and more resilient against future shocks.

While the immediate priority is to address the public health emergency, public stimulus packages will have to be developed to relaunch the economy, create millions of jobs and support people - especially the most vulnerable - through this difficult time. How we respond to the crisis will determine whether we succeed or fail in the fight against climate change, the loss of nature, widespread pollution and inequality, and create health benefits for all. The EU and its governments must therefore demonstrate leadership and foresight by directing all public stimulus investments at accelerating the transition to a just, resilient and sustainable economy, boosting the European Green Deal to deliver even more.

We call upon political leaders to develop comprehensive EU and national Sustainable Recovery Plans. In particular, this means:

- Step up policy action against climate change and biodiversity loss at EU, national and international level, by strengthening and continuing the implementation of the targets, strategies and laws announced in the European Green Deal;
- In high-carbon and other potentially polluting sectors such as intensive agriculture, make support to companies conditional on their alignment with environmental and climate objectives. No bailouts should be given to unviable or polluting industries that have no future in tomorrow's economy. State aid, loans, subsidies and other direct or indirect support to companies must come with strict conditions, monitored and enforced by the EU, and focus on sustainable initiatives and the creation of sustainable jobs;
- The establishment of a sizable green recovery fund backed up by all available EU financial tools (including the MFF and its spending programmes, new funds, the use of the European Stability Mechanism and exploring so-called 'eurobonds'), to finance the

green and just recovery. These interventions must be based on established principles such as transparency, accountability and community-driven solutions.

- Public and private investment throughout the recovery should be guided by the EU's taxonomy to accelerate the shift from polluting into green sectors; similarly the European Investment Bank should bring its lending policies in line with the European Green Deal objectives by end 2020; In addition, sustainable finance policies should be accelerated and a taxonomy of unsustainable practices to be excluded agreed.
- All recovery plans must put people's well-being at the heart of the crisis response and deliver social benefits and protect workers' rights through a 'just transition for all'.

We support the many appeals for green recovery that have blossomed across Europe: By 13 EU governments, Members of the European Parliament, the Club of Rome, scientists, NGOs, 200 representatives from business and politics, energy companies, and many more. The European Council had also called on the EU to prepare an economic recovery plan that would integrate the green transition. To these voices we add ours.

Please do not let these calls go unanswered.

SIGNATORIES

EU (Brussels)

WWF European Policy Office (on behalf of European WWF network)

Transport & Environment (T&E)

BirdLife Europe

Greenpeace European Unit

Friends of the Earth Europe

Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe

European Environmental Bureau (EEB)

CEE Bankwatch Network

Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL)

Naturefriends International

Wetlands International Europe

Youth and Environment Europe

GoParity

Ocean Alive

Protect Our Winters Europe

International

WeMove

Mountain Wilderness International

Mighty Earth

Avaaz

SumOfUs

Whywaste
Environmental Defense Fund
Humanity Consulting
Think tank Global Challenges
Design for All Foundation
Društvo 20000 milja

Austria

VCÖ –Mobilität mit Zukunft
Klimavolksbegehren
Future Aid - Die Zukunft braucht unsere Hilfe!

Belgium

Inter-Environnement Wallonie
Bond Beter Leefmilieu
Climaxi

Croatia

Zelena akcija/Friends of the Earth Croatia
Eko-Eko Komin
Udruga Žmergo
Udruga Argonauta
"Eko-Zadar"

Finland

350 Finland
Climate Move
The Finnish Association for Nature Conservation

France

Réseau Action Climat
France Nature Environnement
Fondation Nicolas Hulot
Respire

Greece

ECOCITY NGO

Germany

Deutsche Umwelthilfe
Verkehrsclub Deutschland VCD
For Future Bürgewald

Hungary

Levego

National Society of Conservationists - Friends of the Earth Hungary

Ireland

An Taisce - National Trust for Ireland

Italy

Legambiente

Cittadini per l'aria

Fondazione per lo Sviluppo Sostenibile

Mountain Wilderness Italia

Club Alpino Italiano

Touring Club Italiano

Italia Nostra Onlus

Lipu-BirdLife Italia

Istituto Nazionale di Urbanistica

FOCSIV (Italian Federation of Christian NGOs)

Verdi Ambiente e Società (VAS)

Società Italiana di Geologia Ambientale - Sigea

LAC - Lega per l'Abolizione della Caccia

Verdi Ambiente e Società (VAS)

Ente Nazionale Protezione Animali

AMBIENTE e LAVORO

Parents for future Ferrara

Parents For Future Italia

ASSOCIAZIONE NAZIONALE DEI RANGERS D'ITALIA

Medici per l'Ambiente- ISDE Italia

Latvia

Zero Waste Latvia

Netherlands

Natuurenmilieu

Milieudefensie

Norway

Bellona Europa

Poland

Polish Ecological Club Mazovian Branch

FPPE

Spółeczny Rzecznik Piesznych w Bydgoszczy

Portugal

Quercus

ZERO

ANP - Associação Natureza Portugal

Divespot

NBI - Natural Business Intelligence

Circular - Consultoria em Sustentabilidade

Raízes Mag

Romania

Romanian Ornithological Society

Transylvanian Carpathia Society - Satu Mare

Fundatia Conservation Carpathia

ECOTOP Oradea

Asociatia Rangerilor din Romania

Kogayon Association

Romanian Bat Protection Association

Center for Protected Areas and Sustainable Development Bihor

Aqua Crisis

Slovenia

Red Tree Heritage institute

Spain

Salvia

Ecodes

Sociedad Civil por el Debate

Red de periodistas rurales

PTP

FER - fundacion renovables

Ecounion

Sweden

Naturskyddsföreningen

Jordens Vänner

Climate Parliament Sweden (Klimatriksdagen)

The Swedish Association for Responsible Consumption

Switzerland

Alpine Initiative

Oceancare

This appeal is [open to signatories from organisations here](#).

A public petition was launched in cooperation with WeMove.eu. [It can be signed here.](#)