Sustainable Tech 2023 program

Registration

I. Section: Green economy on tech bases

We are living in the world of a technological revolution. Some markets are already open, others are still being formed, and there are some that we do not even know about yet. What all these innovations have in common is that they only have a future if they support climate neutrality. Time is of pivotal importance now, it is both pressing and might bring about smashing success for green technologies to reach the widest user base possible. The demand, its change, and new markets show the way, to which companies, countries, and regulations react. But is it just a vain fantasy that technology will solve everything? Are we not getting too comfortable with the excessive technological optimism? How can we predict future demand for new technologies? Which will be the winner and over what timeframe? We know that a country should invest in the technology in which it is (or can be) a leader, in which it can produce and export cheaply. We can rely on international best practices, but what will be Hungary’s green trump? In what do we have a competitive edge?

08:55 - 09:00 Welcome speech

Speaker:

Zoltán Bán, CEO, Net Média (Portfolio Group)

09:05 - 09:20 The Net Zero challenge - What can green technologies do?

Speaker:

Márton Békés, Associate Partner, McKinsey & Company, Budapest

09:20 - 10:05 **Tech-optimism, i.e., can we do anything because technology will save us from climate catastrophe?**

Moderator: **Zoltán Bán**, CEO, Net Média (Portfolio Group)

Conversation participants:

Dr. Barbara Botos, Ambassador-at-large for Climate, Cabinet of Secretariat of Energy and Climate Policy, Ministry for Energy

János Hidi, Sustainable Investment Manager, Cambridge Econometrics

Balázs Szécsi, Transaction Manager, ALTEO

Zsolt Veres, Country General Manager, Schneider Electric Hungária Ltd.

10:05 - 10:35 **International best practices – Which green technology do countries base their future on? (English)**

Moderator: **Ákos Dervalics**, managing partner, Green Brother (EIT InnoEnergy HUB és EIT Urban Mobility RIS HUB)

Conversation participants:

Pertti Anttinen, Ambassador, Embassy of Finland

Désirée Bonis, Ambassador, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Caroline Charette, Ambassador, Embassy of Canada

Coffee break

II. Section: Financial markets’ role in green technology

The green economic transition requires an enormous amount of capital, while for some technologies and investments, we do not even know if and when there will be demand. A few technologies of renewable energy and green transport have already proven their worth, but what do we think about the rest? What financial prospects do the most innovative but smallest companies have and how will there be a financial base for large and cross-border projects such as the transition to a circular economy? How can we attract new investors and convince them that the money invested will be returned? Who will finance the green transition of now polluters?

Moderator: Roxána Pásztor, Sustainability Project Leader, Portfolio

11:05 - 11:20 **Where is capital going? – The role of financial institutions in climate change**

Speaker:

Dr. Barnabás Ács, Global Solutions Sales Director, Sustainable Finance & Investing, London Stock Exchange Group

11:20 - 12:05 **Financing green technologies, the new favourites of investors and banks – Where does most money flow?**

Moderator: **Balázs Bozsik**, fenntarthatósági és ESG üzleti szolgáltatások vezető, PwC Magyarország

Conversation participants:

Péter Kereskényi, Head of Real Estate, Acquisition and Syndicated Finance, Raiffeisen Bank Zrt.

Levente András Koczóh, Senior klímapolitikai tanácsadó, Green Policy Center

Bernadett Papp, Senior Market Analyst, Pact Capital AG

József Török, Investment Director, Blue Planet Climate Fund

Lunch break

III. Section: Green hydrogen, electrification, and digitalisation

The green economic transition requires an enormous amount of capital, while for some technologies and investments, we do not even know if and when there will be demand. A few technologies of renewable energy and green transport have already proven their worth, but what do we think about the rest? What financial prospects do the most innovative but smallest companies have and how will there be a financial base for large and cross-border projects such as the transition to a circular economy? How can we attract new investors and convince them that the money invested will be returned? Who will finance the green transition of now polluters?

Moderator: Roxána Pásztor, Sustainability Project Leader, Portfolio

13:05 - 13:20 **The first step towards the widespread deployment of hydrogen technology in Hungary**

Speaker:

Ákos Kriston, elnök-vezérigazgató, Magyar Földgáztároló Zrt.

13:20 - 14:05 Will electrification and green hydrogen connect industries as opponents or complementing each other? – Obstacles and improvements needed

Moderator: **Dóra Csernus**, vezető klíma- és környezetpolitikai szakértő, Egyensúly Intézet

Conversation participants:

Zsolt Bertalan, Chief Technology Innovation Officer, MVM Zrt.

István Lepsényi, President, Hungarian Hydrogen Technology Association

Márton Sipos, Senior Manager, KPMG

14:05 - 14:20 Digitalisation above all – An ideal carbon-neutral world

Speaker:

Anita Zakrzewski, sales manager, TOPdesk Magyarország Kft.

14:20 - 14:35 Sustainability report – obligation or option?

Speaker:

Zoltán Fülöp, ESG Lead, msg Plaut Hungary Kft.

14:35 - 14:50 Access4you S-score: Digital solution for measuring social sustainability

Speaker:

Anna Kepes, Head of Operations, Access4you International

Coffee break

IV. Section: The future is in circulation and knowledge

A shift to a circular economy is a major challenge for all industries. The construction industry is busy creating green raw materials while, in transport, the question is not only fuelling by renewable energy but how to recycle installed components, even batteries, while manufacturers need to manage their packaging materials – metal, paper, plastic etc. – properly. Technology fundamentally determines the life cycle of materials and products and their waste management. If it were not a big enough task to bring these industries, plus emitters such as the heavy industry, the retail segment, and the real estate market into a circular approach, a serious labour market issue would also need

to be addressed: A transition risk affecting the whole society arises with the improvement of tech, hundreds of thousands of workplaces might transform, but how should we react to this?

Moderator: Roxána Pásztor, Sustainability Project Leader, Portfolio

15:10 - 15:25 Where is the cycle headed?

Speaker:
Prof. Dr. Anita Boros, Head of the Analysis Centre, Centre for Circular Economy Analysis and Knowledge founded by Hungarian University of Agricultural and Life Sciences (MATE)

15:25 - 16:10 The future is in a circular economy – From the construction industry to battery and waste management

Moderator: **Bálint Horváth**, Senior Sustainability Consultant, CBRE Hungary
Conversation participants:
András Ábrahám, Project Director, Skanska Hungary
Dr. Péter Kaderják, Managing Director, Hungarian Battery Association
Ádám Karakas, Partner, Boston Consulting Group
Anita Simon, Deputy CEO, Sustainability and Circular Economy, Alteo Group

16:10 - 16:20 A practical example: this is how mixed waste can be a value

Speaker:
Károly Henger, CEO, Horge Technologies Ltd.

16:20 - 16:50 Tech in the world of the labour market and knowledge infrastructure: is a wave of retraining coming, what should we prepare for?

Moderator: **Dávid Forrás**, Executive Producer, Portfolio Podcast Lab
Conversation participants:
Ádám Horváth, Executive partner, EdTech Magyarország
Dávid József Szabó, Director of Strategy, Prohuman
Zsuzsa Tóth, HR igazgató, CIB Bank

Networking & Champagne toast