
Chatham House
Circular Economy Finance Roundtable

4 March 2020 - 1:00pm to 5:00 pm

Chatham House | 10 St James's Square | London | SW1Y 4LE

1:00 pm **Arrival & lunch**

1:30 – 1:50pm **Welcome remarks & round of introductions**
Patrick Schröder, Chatham House

1:50 – 3:00pm **Session 1 topics:**

What is the current circular economy finance landscape in terms of initiatives, definitions, criteria and guidance?

What are the implications of the circular economy for banks, pension funds, and private investors?

What lessons can be learned from climate finance initiatives and ESG related factors and risks?

Are the currently existing finance sector initiatives sufficient to achieve the transition, or is more financial regulation required?

Format:

Short presentations by followed by moderated discussion

Presenters:

Ian Nolan, Circularity Capital

Hans Stegeman, Triodos Investment Management

Paul Dewick, The University of Manchester

Moderator: **Jan Raes**, ABN AMRO

3:00 – 3:15pm **Tea/Coffee break**

3:15 – 4:30pm

Session 2 topics:

How can the finance industry and official development assistance (ODA) support inclusive and just transitions to the circular economy?

What are the roles of public and private funding and blended finance in financing the circular economy?

What types of financial products for small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in developing countries are required?

Format:

Short presentations by followed by moderated discussion

Presenters:

Davinah Milenge Uwella, The African Development Bank

Janneke van Veen, The European Commission, DG Research and Innovation

Ellen Brookes, CDC

Shiva Dustdar, The European Investment Bank

Moderator:

Patrick Schröder, Chatham House

4:30 –5:00pm

Summary and closing remarks

Michiel de Smet, The Ellen MacArthur Foundation

Patrick Schröder, Chatham House

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Context for the event:

The circular economy minimises waste and keeps materials and products in circulation for as long as possible. It is increasingly regarded as a promising model for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the global climate goals of the Paris Agreement, as well as driving sustainable and resilient economic growth in both developed and emerging economies.

The financial industry has a key role to play in scaling up circular practices and ensure the transition from a linear to a circular model. Interest and action from policymakers, the financial industry, and other stakeholders towards financing the circular economy is already emerging in the form of thematic circular economy funds and innovative financial vehicles, as well as new investment criteria, guidance and standards.

However, as more activities around circular economy financing are emerging, questions that arise concern issues of common definitions and standards, consistency with green climate finance and development finance as well as distributive justice and good governance.

This roundtable will bring together experts representing public and private finance and investment to discuss these questions and share best practices to forge pathways for joined up approaches on circular economy finance.

The roundtable will build on [previous and ongoing research by Chatham House](#) and others, to drive forward a global and inclusive circular economy agenda.