



European Commission

Enterprise Directorate-General

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*Competitiveness and Sustainable Development  
– some remarks on the policy context*

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# 1. Introduction and outline

- Political context: the new Barroso Commission
- Promoting competitiveness and sustainable development through the Commission's own policies
- Promoting competitiveness and sustainable development through business initiatives
- Conclusion

## 2. The Lisbon Strategy and the EU Sustainable Development Strategy


*The three central elements of these two Strategies:*

- A broad vision of what *is* sustainable
- The identification of trends which are clearly *not* sustainable
- Ways and means to achieve sustainable development:
  - Improving policy-making and the four components of the Better Regulation agenda
  - Science and innovation and Europe's underperformance in this area

## 2. The Lisbon Strategy and the EU Sustainable Development Strategy

*Ongoing review processes:*

- The review of the Lisbon Strategy – the recommendations made in the Kok report as a building block:
  - Promoting the knowledge society
  - Completing the internal market
  - Improving the business climate
  - Improving the functioning of the labour market
  - Developing and diffusing eco-innovations
- The review process in relation to the EU's Sustainable Development Strategy



### 3. Promoting sustainable development by promoting business initiatives

- Consider businesses as part of the solution, not as part of the problem
- The Commission's initiatives in relation to Corporate Social Responsibility: the Multi-Stakeholder Forum and planned follow-up
- The Commission's planned Communication on Sustainable Production



## 4. Conclusion

- The role of Commission policies in ensuring a balance between the different pillars of sustainable development
- The pivotal, dual role of the ICT-sector