



Wilton Park
Harnessing the power of dialogue

Programme

7th British-German Environment Forum **The crisis of growth: threat or opportunity for sustainable development?**

Thursday 24 – Saturday 26 February 2011 | WP1069

How can Britain and Germany respond to the recession without compromising longer-term sustainability goals?

The UK and Germany, both pioneers of industrialization, not only have a particular responsibility and a particular challenge in moving towards sustainability but have valuable – and contrasting - policy experience and traditions to share and build upon, not only for mutual benefit but also to inspire good practice throughout Europe and globally.

The British-German Environment Forum (BGEF) brings together policy makers and practitioners from business, public agencies and the voluntary sector for a 2-day conference on a sustainability topic, alternating between Britain and Germany. It has built and is building a network of contacts to promote good practice and innovation.

The BGEF is designed to generate action: a key goal is to develop the experience and insights of practitioners in business, local government and the voluntary sectors involved in designing and implementing initiatives at local and regional levels as well as the national level.

In partnership with British-German Environment Forum;
with support from BP, Germany

Thursday 24 February

1800 Participants arrive

1900-1945 **Drinks and welcome in the Common room**

Richard Burge
Chief Executive, Wilton Park, Steyning

Ray Cunningham
Convenor, British-German Environment Forum

1945 Dinner followed by speaker
Prospects for the global economy over the next five years
John Llewellyn
Partner, Llewellyn Consulting; former Chief Economist, Lehman Brothers

Friday 25 February

0800-0900 Breakfast

0900-0915 **Introduction from Chairs**

Richard Burge

Chief Executive, Wilton Park, Steyning

Tom Burke

Environment Policy Adviser, Rio Tinto, London

0915-1015 **1. Sustainable development in Britain, Germany and the global economy**

Sonia Phippard

Acting Director General, Environment and Rural Group, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), London

Ursula Heinen-Esser

Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Berlin

1015-1045 Conference photograph followed by tea/coffee

1045-1145 **2. Prosperity and green growth: how feasible?**

The paradox of growth

Paul Ekins

Professor of Energy and Environment Policy, UCL Energy Institute, University College London, London; Author, Environmental Sustainability and Economic Growth: the Prospects for Green Growth

Post-growth society: what does this look like?

Irmi Seidl

Head of Research Unit, Swiss Federal Research Institute WSL, Birmensdorf and co-author 'Post-Growth Society'

1145-1155 Comfort break

1155-1300 **3. Prosperity and green growth: how feasible?**

The politics of greening: the new German Commission

Hermann Ott

Bündnis 90/Die Grünen Member of the Bundestag; Member, German Government Commission on Growth, Prosperity and Quality of Life, Berlin

Global perspectives on an EU green deal

Kate Raworth

Senior Researcher, Oxfam GB, Oxford

1300-1430 Lunch

1430-1530 **4. Can technology provide the solutions to sustainable growth?**

Paul Dickinson

Executive Chairman, Carbon Disclosure Project, London

Peter Sharman

Finance Director, RWE Innogy (UK), London

1530-1600 Tea/coffee

1600-1720

5. Working groups

Participants will choose working group A, B or C and each group will explore both scenarios.

Scenario 1: No or negative growth in the EU as growth continues in Brazil, Russia, India and China (BRICs)

Scenario 2: A return to trend growth rates in both the EU and the BRIC countries

How can we use each scenario as an opportunity:

Working Group A - to decouple prosperity from growth in Germany and UK?

Chair: Stephen Tindale

Associate Fellow, Centre for European Reform, London

Working Group B - to aid the transition to a low-carbon economy?

Chair: Ute Collier

Team Leader, Buildings, Industry, Bioenergy and Devolved Administrations, Committee on Climate Change, London

Working Group C - to aid the transition to greener growth in emerging and developing economies?

Chair: Matthias Meissner

Policy Officer, International Agriculture and Sustainable Land Use, WWF, Germany, Berlin

1730-1845

6. Feedback from working groups to plenary, followed by discussion and concluding panel debate

Feedback Chair: Richard Burge

Panel discussion chair:

Tom Burke Environment Strategy Advisor, Rio Tinto plc, London;

Jo Leinen Member of Parliament, European Parliament, Brussels

Hermann Ott

Bündnis 90 Member of the Bundestag; Member, German Government Commission on Growth and Sustainability, Berlin

Frances O'Grady

Deputy General Secretary, Trades Union Congress, London

1900

Reception drinks

1930

Closing dinner

Speakers at dinner to discuss the British and German environmental movements

Sara Parkin

Founder Director, Forum for the Future, London

Jürgen Krönig

Author and Broadcaster, London

Saturday 26 February

0800

Breakfast

0900-1100

Tour of Wiston Estate (optional) including visit to the Estate Winery (English sparkling wine) Hosted by Rick Goring whose family own Wiston Estate and Wiston House. Including discussion about farming activities, environmental stewardship and

In partnership with the British-German Environment Forum

