

# GreenBudgetEurope

European expert platform on environmental taxation and green fiscal reform

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European Environment Agency



## Taxation, Innovation and Communication: Enhancing the prospects for green fiscal reform

*A conference organised by  
Green Budget Europe and the Danish Ecological Council*

*With the support of  
European Environment Agency (EEA),  
European Environmental Bureau (EEB),  
Rockwool International and Concito*

**Copenhagen, 15 - 16 September 2011**

**\*\*draft version\*\* (tbc = speakers to be confirmed)**

## Day 1

### **The advantages of green taxation, including special sessions on the Energy Tax Directive**

#### **09.30 – 11.00: Keynote speakers – taxation as a driver for the green economy**

**Chair: Christian Ege, Director, Danish Ecological Council**

Welcome (10 mins)

*Jacqueline Cottrell, Manager, Green Budget Europe*

*Christian Ege, Director, Danish Ecological Council*

#### **Keynote addresses:**

Taxation, innovation and communication – ways forward for Environmental Taxation in Europe

*Professor Jacqueline McGlade, Executive Director, European Environment Agency*

Environmental Taxation in Europe – new opportunities offered by the crisis

*Dr. Anselm Görres, President, Green Budget Europe*

Green tax reform in Denmark

*Martin Lidegaard, Chairman of the Board, Concito*

#### **11.00 – 11.30: Coffee break**

#### **11.30 – 13.00: The Energy Tax Directive: The latest Commission proposal and prospects for implementation**

**Chair: Aldo Ravazzi, Italian Ministry of Environment, Land & Sea, and Vice President, Green Budget Europe**

The Commission proposal for a revised Energy Tax Directive

*Dr. Rolf Diemer, Head of Unit, DG Taxation and Customs Union, European Commission*

Green Budget Europe's analysis of the proposed revisions to the Energy Tax Directive

*Kai Schlegelmilch, Green Budget Europe*

Brief statements from speakers on their approaches to and opinions on the Energy Tax Directive, including representatives from:

- The Upcoming Danish EU Presidency - comments from the Danish Members of Parliament Jesper Petersen (SF) and Morten Østergaard (RV)
- Other speakers – details tbc

**13.00 – 14.00 Lunch****Parallel sessions 14:00 – 15:30****1) Exploring the interrelationship between innovation and taxation**

**Chair: Eelco van Heel, CEO, Rockwool, Denmark**

Innovation of energy technologies – the role of taxes

*Helge Sigurd Naess-Schmidt, Director, Copenhagen Economics*

Taxation and Innovation in Denmark (title tbc)

*Lene Skov Henningsen, Head of Division, Danish Ministry of Taxes*

*(Additional speaker to be confirmed)*

**2) The Energy Tax Directive – stationary sources of emissions**

**Chair: Jørgen Henningsen, formerly Principal Advisor of DG Energy and Transport**

Environmental taxes in the context of fiscal consolidation

*John Ward, Principal, VIVID Economics Ltd.*

How and why energy taxes can be good for business

*Anders Stouge, Deputy Director General, Danish Energy Association*

Households and energy taxation

*Søren Dyck-Madsen, Climate and Energy Policy Officer, Danish Ecological Council*

**15.30 – 16.00: Coffee break****Parallel sessions 16:00 – 17.30****1) Evidence of green taxation boosting green innovation – successes in Denmark**

**Chair: tbc**

The impact of the Danish carbon taxation on innovation at Danfoss

*Thomas Keller, Senior Director, Danfoss*

Innovative responses to green taxes on waste in Denmark

*Professor Dr. Mikael Skou Andersen, European Environment Agency (EEA)*

The impact of specifically industry-related taxes on industry in Denmark

*Edward James - Smith, Energy Analyst, Ea Energy Analyses*

## 2) The Energy Tax Directive and the transport sector

**Chair: Per Homan Jespersen, Lecturer, Institute for Environment, Social and Spatial Change at Roskilde University ENSPAC**

Could EU prevent transport fuel tax competition between member states by copying the USA/Canada IFTA model?

*Magnus Nilsson, Senior Campaigner, Transport & Environment*

Tax treatment of fishing fuels in the EU

*Dr. Edward Fahy, Coordinator, Smart Taxes Network*

*(Additional speaker to be confirmed)*

CONFERENCE CLOSE DAY 1

Drinks reception

Conference dinner

## Day 2

### **Taxation, innovation and communication – highlighting the possibilities for change**

#### **KEYNOTES**

##### **09:15 – 10:45**

**Chair: Eero Yrjö-Koskinen, Executive Director, Finnish Association for Nature Conservation**

The benefits of stricter carbon cuts for innovation and green investments

*Connie Hedegaard, Climate Action Commissioner, European Commission*

The 'Sustainable Prosperity' project and its lessons for communicating environmental policies

*Stewart Elgie, Professor of Law and Economics at the University of Ottawa, Canada (tbc)*

Policies to enhance innovation and green growth

*Jens Lundsgaard, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Economic and Business Affairs (tbc)*

##### **10.45 – 11.15 Presentation: GBE's Green Fiscal Reformer of the Year Award**

##### **11.15 – 11.30 Coffee break**

##### **Parallel sessions 11.30 – 13.00**

#### **1) Environmental taxation and innovation – cases from around Europe**

**Chair: Thomas Kähler, Chairman, Rockwool International A/S**

The debate in Switzerland to replace (all of) VAT with environmental taxation

*Ion Karagounis, Managing Director, Praktischer Umweltschutz Schweiz Pusch, Switzerland*

The Community Innovation Survey in France – identifying sources of innovation

*Maryvonne Phantarangsi, Chargée de mission in environmental policy and business/Ministry of Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development and Sea, France*

Greening industries without loss of competitiveness – Danish experiences and European options

*Anders Chris Hansen, Lecturer at Institute for Environment, Social and Spatial Change at Roskilde University ENSPAC*

## 2) The potential impacts of taxes on innovation in the transport sector

**Chair: Per Homann Jespersen, Lecturer, Institute for Environment, Social and Spatial Change at Roskilde University ENSPAC**

Results of traffic-related taxes in Denmark

*Christian Ege, Director, Danish Ecological Council*

Tax Incentives in Taxation on Vehicles in the Czech Republic – a comparison of behaviour before and after environmental tax reform in the sector in 2009

*Karel Korba and Zdenka Teserova, Head of Tax, Ministry of Finance, Czech Republic*

Possibilities and prospects for EFR in the transport sector in Portugal

*Nuno Domingues, EFR Coordinator, GEOTA, Portugal*

### 13.00 – 14.00 LUNCH

### 14.00 – 15.30: Environmental Fiscal Reform: Communicating the benefits

**Chair: Susanne Tolstrup, Director of Communications & Public Affairs, Better Place**

- This innovative session will have 3 working groups discussing the communication of EFR
- After 45 minutes discussion, the groups will all come back together for the last 45 minutes to brainstorm ideas
- Proposed group leaders, presenting their ideas about communication in the working groups:
  - *Professor Dr. Mikael Skou Andersen, EEA*
  - *Wayne Gumley, Senior Lecturer in Taxation Law, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia*
  - *András Lukács, President, Clean Air Action Group, Hungary*

### 15:30 – 16:00: Coffee break

### 16:00 – 18:00 Panel Discussion – the potential for EFR, particularly the Energy Tax Directive, to green the EU economy (including closing remarks by hosts GBE and DEC)

**Chair: Kai Schlegelmilch, Vice President, Green Budget Europe**

*Margrethe Vestager, Parliamentary Group Leader of the Danish Social Liberal Party*

*Dr. Anselm Görres, President, Green Budget Europe*

*Pieter de Pous, Policy Director, European Environmental Bureau (EEB)*

*Michael Jacobs, Visiting Professor, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, London School of Economics, and former Special Adviser in the UK Treasury*

*Hans Larsen, Deputy Manager, Representative from the Danish Ministry of Tax (tbc)*

*Manfred Rosenstock, Deputy Head of Unit, Strategy, Environment DG (tbc)*

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**Location of the conference:**

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