



## **Panel 1. SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY AND THE EMERGING MARKET**

Sustainable development has become a key issue in the past decades. Companies, governments, international organisations or ordinary people worldwide should be aware that we are obliged to preserve a healthy planet both for us, and especially for future generations.

The United Nations (UN) have contributed greatly to promoting sustainable development in all its dimensions: economic, social and environmental. The UN document Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development set 17 Sustainable Development Goals to be achieved in order to eradicate poverty and enhance prosperity globally. Economic growth without environmental deterioration is one of the targets of Goal 8 (“Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all”).

Currently, climate change is a topic of great interest, because of the negative effects that it may have on economic growth, on the environment, infrastructure, energy, agriculture, forests, cost of living, people, etc.

Following the serious consequences climate change could have both on current generations but especially on future ones, it was approached within the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2016 held in Davos-Klosters, Rosamond Hutt (21 January 2016,

What are the 10 biggest global challenges?), being considered among the 10 biggest global challenges.

Specialist literature in the field highlights the difficulty of assessing the possible impact of climate change on economic growth and related costs, but, at the same time, it outlines the idea that in long run, the poor countries will be more affected than the developed ones. However, in today globalised economy, all countries are affected by climate change and a global effort to fight it is required. An historic moment in finding solutions to mitigate the negative effects of climate change was the Paris Agreement, adopted in 2015, under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

On this background, Panel 1 aims to provide a discussion forum on sustainable economy and the emerging market. The topics addressed are related but not limited to:

- sustainable business
- sustainable agriculture
- sustainable economies in emerging markets
- sustainable consumption
- green economy
- green finance
- climate change and sustainable development
- climate change implications on poor countries.