

THINK TANK

DELIBERATION SPACE ON THE GREEN RECOVERY

Working Document No. 5

22 June 2021

Reflection on the first cycle (July 2020 - June 2021)

During the first phase of the Green Recovery Think Tank, the deliberation group was primarily oriented towards offering a deliberation space for the Climate-Committed Citizens and Gipuzkoa 2030, 100% Circular Territory projects. In the second phase, the goal was reoriented towards the participatory evaluation of these projects and a number of exercises were conducted to establish objectives and indicators for them.

These projects already have the necessary deliberation and evaluation mechanisms for their evolution and internal work. It is therefore time to conclude this first cycle and reflect on the new cycle with a redefined objective.

Proposal for the cycle June 2021 - June 2022

The proposed objective for this new cycle is for the Think Tank to be the **meeting point for reflection on climate change** from the perspective of green recovery, to address the remaining future challenges in this area and to reflect on them. To this end, we will focus in this session on identifying the challenges that are not already being solved in parallel. That is, we will focus on action and on developing projects around **issues that form part of the Green Deal and the European strategy, with the aim of adding them to the province's working agenda over the coming years.**

In this way, the deliberation group will reflect and deliberate to create this **deliberation agenda which will be addressed from September 2021 in bimonthly meetings.**

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK OF THE PROCESS: GREEN DEAL AND KEY FACTORS¹

In order to be able to address this, it is necessary to understand the fundamentals of the great European Green Deal. We therefore set out some of the rationale and areas of action of the

¹ The conceptual framework for the activity of Etorikizuna Eraikiz Think Tank's Green Recovery deliberation group during the period June 2021-June 2022, as summarised in this working document, is based on the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions in the framework of the European Green Deal (Brussels, 11 December 2019).

Green Deal below, which we believe may be useful for reflection and deliberation at the next session on 22 June.

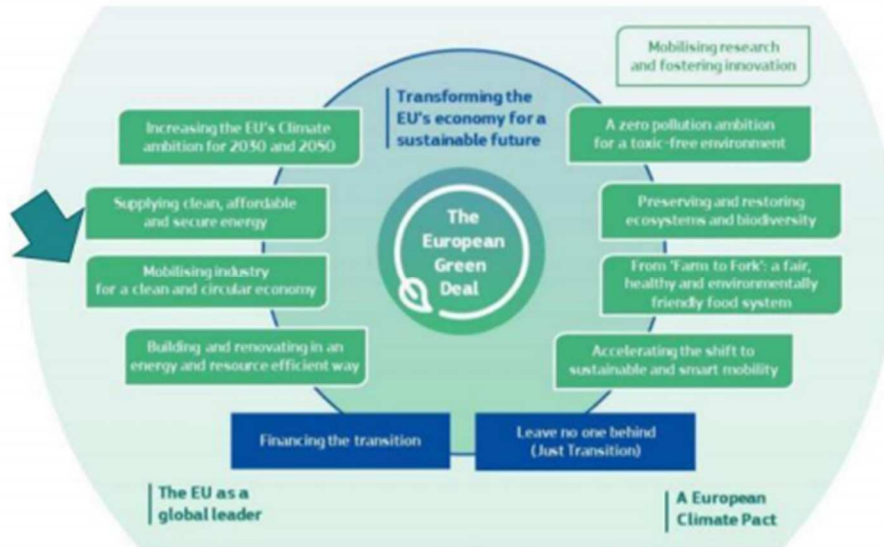
**Excerpt from the document Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions of 11 December 2019.*



One of the European Commission's priorities for the coming years is to advance the Green Deal with the aim of reversing climate change and curbing its effects. The plan includes 50 concrete actions to combat climate change and aims to make Europe the first climate-neutral continent by 2050.

The goal is for Europe to have a clean, zero-emission economy and to protect our natural habitat in order to improve the well-being of people and businesses and to take the lead on global climate action. It aims to transform the EU into a fully sustainable economy.

The European Green Pact includes a series of actions to promote the efficient use of resources, covering all sectors of the economy. It places special emphasis on those that produce the most emissions, such as transport, energy and industry. These actions seek to initiate a transition towards a clean, circular economy, reduce pollution and emissions and protect biodiversity. It aims to reduce emissions by 50% or 55% by 2030.



Areas in which work is being done

Clean energy

Energy production and usage accounts for more than 75% of greenhouse gas emissions in the European Union, and the goal is therefore to decarbonise this sector and prioritise the use of clean and renewable energies through the modernisation of infrastructures and the promotion of energy and ecological efficiency.

Sustainable industry

Only 12% of the materials used in industry come from recycling and it accounts for 20% of the EU's emissions. The European Commission's Industrial Strategy, included in the Green Deal, states that companies will receive aid to modernize their processes and stimulation will be given to circular production and zero generation of emissions. Developments in the textile, electronics, plastics and construction sectors will be key.

Renovation and efficient construction

The renovation of buildings to improve energy efficiency will also be important in achieving Green Deal targets, since they currently account for 40% of energy consumption. To this end, a renovation initiative will be proposed to develop new possibilities and invest in the energy efficiency of buildings.

Sustainable mobility

Transport accounts for 25% of EU emissions, so the European Commission is proposing and promoting the use of cleaner, more efficient and healthier public and private transport. The aim is to reduce emissions from cars, shipping and aviation by cutting fossil fuel subsidies and investing in the development of alternatives.

Biodiversity

The European Green Pact will also promote measures to protect biodiversity and ecosystems, improve the quality of oceans and forests and develop the "green city" concept to increase biodiversity in urban spaces.

Farm-to-fork

This strategy will operate in the agricultural and fisheries sectors, reducing the use of pesticides and developing new innovative techniques for processes in farms and in relation to fisheries, with the aim of ensuring quality and sustainable food, curbing climate change, protecting the environment and increasing organic farming and livestock.

Ending pollution

Ending emissions is one of the objectives of this European Green Pact, but in addition to clean air, it also includes measures to achieve clean and plastic-free seas and oceans and improve the quality of life of all citizens.

More information:

https://ec.europa.eu/spain/news/20191212_Europe-climate-neutral-2050_es

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal>