Recent civic movements, from yellow vests to school strikes for climate, illustrate how the social and environmental crises are interconnected, and that the most vulnerable groups in society must not be left behind in the transition to a low-carbon and resource-efficient economic model that respects the planetary boundaries.

The side event will demonstrate that social, economic and environmental gains can be concurrently obtained when policies are well designed and civil society is involved from an early stage of the policy-making process. The discussion will clearly contribute to three of the SDGs in focus in 2019, namely Goal 8, Goal 10 and Goal 17.

Chair and moderator: Peter Schmidt, President of the Sustainable Development Observatory, EESC

Keynote Presentations:
- Sanja Ajanović Hovnik, Deputy Director of the Government office for Development and European Cohesion Policy, Slovenia – Introduction, and the Slovenian National Sustainable Development Strategy
- H.E Ms. Doma Tshering, Ambassador & Permanent Representative of Kingdom of Bhutan to the UN – Beyond GPD: Gross National Happiness Index
- Marja Innanen, Chief Specialist from the Prime Minister’s Office and the Deputy Secretary General of the National Commission on Sustainable Development, Finland - Finnish approaches to Inclusive and Sustainable Economy

Panel Discussion:
- Heidi Huusko, United Nations Global Compact
- Paola Simonetti, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)
- Kate Kitchener, Bureau of Recycling and Sustainability New York City Department of Sanitation
- Alissa Ghils, SOLIDAR, presenting report on ‘Falling through the cracks: Exposing inequalities in the European Union and beyond’

Debate with participants 
Summary and Closing

Register to attend here
Registration closes 15 July 2019