

Draft Programme

**Sunday, 7 May 2017**

*Venue: (TBD)*

18:00 – 20.00 Wine & Greet informal event

**Monday, 8 May 2017**

*Venue: European Youth Center Budapest, H-1024 Budapest Zivatar u. 1.*

- 08.30 Registration, coffee
- 09.00 Welcoming words  
H.E. Mr. Pál Ságvári, Ambassador-at-large for Energy Security (*confirmed*)
- 09.05 Welcoming words  
on behalf of the Norwegian Presidency of the Nordic Council of Ministers  
H.E. Mr. Olav Berstad, Ambassador of Norway (*confirmed*)
- 09.10 **Keynote speech**  
**H.E. Mr. László Szabó, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade** (*confirmed*)
- 09.20 **Keynote speech**  
**Ms. Martina Makai, Deputy State Secretary for the green economy** (*confirmed*)
- 09.30 **Keynote speech**  
**Mr. Károly Szita, President of the Association of Cities with County Rights, Mayor of Kaposvár** (*confirmed*)
- 09.40 **Keynote speech**  
**Mr. András Tóth, Executive Vice President of MVM Group** (*confirmed*)
- 09.50 Coffee break. Press Conference
- 10.10 **Plenary session**  
**Financing sustainability projects in Hungary, (Q&A)**  
**Moderator: Mr. András Lengyel, Senior Manager, PWC** (*confirmed*)  
Participants: Public and commercial financial institutions and bodies.  
*The main driving force behind sustainability projects is a special mixture of market-based and political considerations. Financing green economy projects is a highly complex exercise as most initiatives are only partly bankable. In order to assess to feasibility of individual projects, one has to consider the pros and cons of commercial bank credits, refundable and non-refundable EU funds, financing through international financial institutions like EBRD or the Green Climate Fund and Member States public financing as well. The Hungarian government has committed itself to support the development of green economy and government actors have recently been gradually more and more involved in financing sustainability projects. This session aims to provide a helping hand in mapping the various opportunities in financing green economy initiatives.*
- 11.40 Networking lunch  
Hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary (TBD)

## 12.40 – 14.10 Thematic sessions

**Session 1: Green transport (e-mobility, CNG, LNG, logistics, etc.), (Q&A)****Moderator: Mr. Balázs Vándor, Commercial Director, MVM Group (confirmed)**

*The Paris Agreement has led to a shift of focus for flagship Hungarian energy firms. Now it is time to determine those areas that may be part of a boom in investment soon. Green transport will definitely be among them as the automotive sector is of utmost importance for the Hungarian economy. In the context of Hungary's technology neutral approach, can electromobility, CNG and other alternative propulsion systems be all competitive? How to proceed with state support for the purchase of alternative propulsion cars and for setting up a network for filling/charging stations? How can competitive methods be turned into complementary solutions? How can the value chain be optimized? What do the changes mean for the logistics sector and transport companies? What is the role of car sharing?*

**Session 2: Smart cities, smart solutions (energy storage, green electricity, IT solutions, digitalization, etc.), (Q&A)****Moderator: Mr. Zsolt Bertalan, CEO, Smart Future Lab (confirmed)**

*Industry 4.0, Internet of Things, digitalization and smart gadgets keep on transforming our daily life to an extent never seen before. The most up-to-date innovations will inevitably shape the future. The electric power industry is in the limelight as it creates new opportunities for other businesses yet at the same time undergoes profound transformation itself as well. How do operational and planning arrangements between various Transmission and Distribution System Operators affect the playing field of other businesses? What do smart grids have to offer for consumers? With increasing amounts of renewable energy sources (RES) displacing conventional forms of generation, how can the increase in complexity of grid management be kept under control? What are the new opportunities offered by breakthroughs in energy storage and IT development and how to make the most of them? What can we learn from smart meter reading pilots and how to implement smart city concepts?*

**Session 3: Green district heating (waste-to-energy, geothermal energy, large-scale heat pumps, biomass, biogas, etc.), (Q&A)****Moderator: Mr. Balázs Felsmann, Senior Research Associate, Regional Center for Energy Policy Research (confirmed)**

*District heating is still dominated by gas combustion power plants in Hungary, yet the winds of change are already blowing. Local governments are increasingly under pressure to shift towards renewable energy sources to meet EU guidelines and to rein in costs. In theory, Hungary has huge yet underutilized opportunities in waste-to-energy solutions and in the use of geothermal energy – just like many other countries in the Central and Eastern European region. How to change this for the better? What does the district heating development strategy envisage? Could Hungary serve as a springboard towards investments in the Western Balkans or in the Ukraine?*

**Session 4: Sustainable buildings and construction (Architecture, materials, energy and ecological design, etc.), (Q&A)****Moderator: Mr. Pál Baross, President, Hungary Green Building Council (confirmed)**

*Green buildings represent an increasing share of commercial real estate development in Hungary and there are a number of examples for public sector investments assuming a leader role in sustainable design, but the notion of green construction in general has just recently taken off. The holistic approach of green buildings goes far beyond the energy efficiency and many Hungarian small and middle size enterprises are searching for proven best practices. Business considerations also play a key role in green real estate development and delivery of sustainable projects. Who are the key players when it comes to delivering sustainable construction projects? What are the most up-to-date solutions in building management systems, landscaping and plants, comfort and user control, etc? How to establish the best matches for projects in Hungary?*

14.10 Coffee break

14.10 -18.00 **B2B and B2Municipality meetings**

*As of 6 March 2017*

19:00 -

**Reception hosted by H.E. Mr. Olav Berstad, Ambassador of Norway**

*Venue: TBD*