

**COP29 - UNFCCC**

11-22 November 2024, Baku, Azerbaijan

**EVENT CONCEPT NOTE**

**Investing in the Future: Finance for Sustainability**

20 November 2024

## 1. Objectives

The Event will take stock of how public and private financial institutions are responding to the need for financing more equitable and sustainable development, with a focus on developing countries.

The resources made available by public finance and international cooperation appear insufficient to support developing countries' demands for growth.

We therefore need private finance support, in a systemic action defusing the ecological bomb that could explode if these countries' development were pursued according to the same principles that have guided western countries' development in the last century and triggered the climate and environmental crisis we are now experiencing.

## 2. Panel discussions / Event showflow

- **Opening remarks**

Pierluigi Sassi – President of Earth Day Italia

- **Opening intervention**

Rose Epifani - International relations Earthday Europe - interviews Nancy Saich – Chief Climate Change Expert European Investment Bank

- **Panel discussion**

Moderation: Pierluigi Sassi – President of Earth Day Italia

Isabel Reuss – Senior Climate and Social Advisor, Sustainable Finance Forum (online participation)

Giorgio Venceslai - ISMEA Business Services Directorate (online participation)

Andrea Benassi - Head of Sustainable Development at the Institute for Sports Credit (online participation)

Pierpaolo Italia – Director General Inspector of the Inspectorate for Accounting and Public Finance of the Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance (tbc) (online participation)

- **Conclusions**

Pierluigi Sassi – President of Earth Day Italia

## 3. Date and Venue

20 November 2024 | 12:30 – 13:30

The Mediterranean Pavilion, Blue Zone, F1B - COP 29

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### 4. Agenda

Important to flag who will be online and/or using PPTs /Videos

Time	
12:30 – 12:35	<b>Opening remarks</b> Pierluigi Sassi – President of Earth Day Italia
12:35 – 12:45	<b>Opening intervention</b> Rose Epifani - International relations Earthday Europe Interviews Nancy Saich – Chief Climate Change Expert European Investment Bank
12:45 – 13:25	<b>Panel Discussion</b> Moderation: Pierluigi Sassi – President of Earth Day Italia Isabel Reuss – Senior Climate and Social Advisor, Sustainable Finance Forum (online participation) Giorgio Venceslai - ISMEA Business Services Directorate (online participation) Andrea Benassi - Head of Sustainable Development at the Institute for Sports Credit (online participation) Pierpaolo Italia – Director General Inspector of the Inspectorate for Accounting and Public Finance of the Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance (tbc) (online participation)
13:25 – 13:30	<b>Conclusions</b> Pierluigi Sassi – President of Earth Day Italia

### 5. Bios of speakers

#### Pierluigi Sassi

President of Earth Day Italia, since 2011 Pierluigi Sassi has been in charge of the Italian editions of the UN-designated International Mother Earth Day.

In the tenth year of his pontificate, Pope Francis welcomed him as a permanent member of the *Familia Pontificia* (Papal Family or Household), appointing him “Gentleman of His Holiness”. Economic and environmental journalist for L'Osservatore Romano, he collaborates with several Italian institutions and Pontifical dicasteries to promote the Integral Ecology advocated by the Encyclical “Laudato si”.

Business Angel, Innovation Manager and Professional Investor at Cassa Depositi e Prestiti, he now also leads Impatta, the Italian Think-Tank on Innovability, within which he established Impatta4Equity, a holding company with equity in the ecological and digital transition sectors.

#### Nancy Saich

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Nancy Saich is a chartered civil engineer who specialised early in her career in transport projects and more specifically in ports and coastal work. As many as 25 years ago she became involved in the maritime engineering industry discussions on the challenges of incorporating climate change impacts into the design guidance for maritime projects. This was the beginning of her close interest in climate change. After 13 years of work as a consulting engineer, in 1998 she joined the European Investment Bank. Nancy Saich is one of the longest standing members of the Bank's Environmental Assessment Group, providing the Bank's Project Teams with due diligence support on environmental matters on a wide range of projects funded by the Bank. She is also a founder member of the Bank's Inter-Directorate Climate Working Group.

### **Isabel Reuss**

Isabel Reuss is Senior Climate and Social Advisor at the Sustainable Finance Forum (ItaSIF), where she provides input on new regulations and policies, writes position papers on a variety of sustainability topics and co-chairs the working groups on “Greenwashing” and “Collective Engagement”. She is Guest Lecturer at several universities both in Italy and abroad on various sustainability topics. Previously she was active for 37 years in the financial sector both as Global Head of Sustainable Research and as a sustainable fund manager at Allianz Global Investors.