

## TRANSITION FORUM 2021 – Summary

Held this year on September 30 and October 1st in Nice, the TRANSITION FORUM brought together more than **1,200 international participants**: innovators, investors, public and private decision-makers, entrepreneurs, leading researchers and civil society figures from all sectors. More than 20 live-streamed sessions saw some **90 speakers** discuss the challenges and opportunities for scaling up climate action and making commitments. More than **300,000 people followed the discussions online**.

*"We will have to change everything: our modes of production, our modes of financing, our modes of consumption, in order to maintain a quality of life, air and environment in general. [...] The stakes that await us are colossal. We will have to be able to invent new operating methods, modes of collaboration and financing between the public and private sectors",* said Lionel Le Maux, president of Aqua Asset Management and founding president of TRANSITION FORUM, at the opening of the event.



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Many innovations were presented in the four key themes of the transition: food, housing, mobility, production and consumption.

Keynotes, round tables and entrepreneurial pitches followed one another during this action-oriented Forum - a sharing of opinions and solutions towards a low-carbon future.

A very clear message resounded at the conclusion of the TRANSITION FORUM for this fourth edition: it is essential to develop new co-operations in order to initiate the necessary transformations to accelerate the implementation of the ecological transition!

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## Sessions that marked the TRANSITION FORUM 2020 :

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### La décennie pour agir

The protection of soil and biodiversity and the decarbonization of our lifestyles, our production, consumption and travel models are the historical responsibility of our generation. It is necessary to collectively implement rapid and unprecedented transformations. The TRANSITION FORUM brought together scientists, academics and elected officials to share this urgent need for action.

*"We are not moving fast enough, we need to implement more specific actions and accelerate this decade."*

Corinne Le Quéré - Presidente of the French High Council for Climate

[Video](#)

### A new deal, a green deal

Driving major changes requires massive investment in changing the model and involving all stakeholders. This is the purpose of the European Green Deal. The TRANSITION FORUM brought together industrialists and public decision-makers to check in on the implementation of this major ambition.

*"There is a physical risk in not fighting climate events, but there are transition risks as well. If we don't accompany the transformation of the economy well, all the capital that will have been issued in sectors destined to disappear can create financial crises."*

Sylvie Goulard - Deputy Governor of the Bank of France

[Video](#)



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## Large organizations, large companies, large responsibilities

The climate challenge gives rise to new responsibilities. These new responsibilities must be drivers for action. The larger the organizations are, the greater their responsibilities. Constraints or levers? Constraints and levers? How are private and public players integrating this new paradigm? The TRANSITION FORUM brought together representatives of professional sectors, trade unions and elected officials to discuss these issues.

*"100% of the European automotive industry will be totally transformed in 13 years. It is the largest industry in terms of employment in Europe. It is absolutely major."*

Pascal Canfin - Chairman of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety at the European Parliament

*"The ecological transition is an opportunity to reshuffle the deck, to do perhaps less but better."*

Philippe Portier - National Secretary of the French Democratic Confederation of Labour

[Video](#)

## Decarbonizing everyday mobility

With polluting modes of transport being called into question, alternative energies being developed and new forms of mobility emerging, change is underway. During this plenary session, the TRANSITION FORUM brought together public and private decision-makers to share their analyses and best practices and to identify ways to meet the challenge of rapidly deploying innovative, low-carbon transport solutions while taking into account the impact on individual mobility and freight transport.

*"In mobility today, if we want to be supported by the State, by Europe, we must use decarbonized hydrogen."*

Vincent Lemaire - President of SAFRA

[Video](#)

## Organic production, local food systems: the challenges of food transition

From climate change to biodiversity loss to natural resource depletion, many of the sustainability issues facing our planet are directly or indirectly linked to food production. A profound transformation of agri-food systems is needed to feed a growing world population while reducing the impact on the environment. The TRANSITION FORUM brought together farmers, organic trade unionists, experts and innovators to share and discuss some of the best practices and innovations that can increase agricultural yields while preserving our soils, fresh water, oceans, forests and biodiversity.

*"In the coming decade, we must reform our agri-food system, reform the way we consume and reform our agricultural system."*

Didier Perréol - President of Synabio

[Video](#)

### The ecological transition, a lever for reindustrialization

In order to get everyone on board with the ecological transition, we need to build convergence between its economic and social imperatives. We need to support the development of local communities and employment by deploying new local, well-established industries that offer innovations and solutions for environmental protection. Hydrogen mobility, batteries, 3rd and 4th generation PV, decarbonized industry: how can we create a new production model from the ecological transition? The TRANSITION FORUM invited Bruno Le Maire to share his answers.

*"To my mind, spending against global warming is not an expense but an investment for the climate."*  
Bruno Le Maire – French Minister of the Economy, Finance and Recovery

[Vidéo](#)



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### Mitigation or adaptation: how cities face the challenges of transition

Urbanization combined with population growth is expected to add an additional 2.5 billion people in urban areas by 2050. Cities and local communities will be under increasing pressure to meet the needs of their inhabitants for housing, infrastructure, energy and basic social services in a sustainable way. The TRANSITION FORUM brought together architects, public decision-makers, industrialists and financiers to build responses to the challenges of sustainable urban development that will stimulate low-carbon economic growth for decades to come.

*" I do not believe that there is any renunciation in this path that we must take towards ecological solutions. I even think that we will be able to live better and healthier."*

Anne Hidalgo - Mayor of Paris

[Vidéo](#)

## Circular economy: producing and consuming while preserving resources

To reconcile economic growth and sustainable development, we must imperatively reduce our ecological footprint by changing the way we produce and consume goods and resources. The entire chain, from production to distribution, must be rethought to achieve this. In particular, the imperatives of a circular economy must be integrated from the outset. For the economic actors involved in this transition, the growing awareness of consumers is not only a marker of the urgency to act but also a tremendous opportunity. The TRANSITION FORUM has brought together committed entrepreneurs to share their experiences and draw path towards a circular economy together.

*"The driving force is not overconsumption and waste, it is the transition to recycling organic matter. By 2023, all municipalities in France must have separate collection of household waste."*

Frédéric Flipo - Deputy CEO of Evergaz

[Video](#)

### But also :

- What dreams for 2050?
- How to co-construct the economic transition?
- Is de-innovating necessary to make the ecological transition a success?
- Ecological transition and sovereignty: the industrial revolution of the 21st century
- The green transition, a challenge for fractured societies
- Reducing the carbon footprint of digital technology
- Towards a more sustainable tourism
- Is there a European way to save the planet?
- The Ocean and transition: energy, climate and biodiversity
- Climate and health: what new requirements?

[Watch all sessions in replay](#)

*"In the end, the dream is peace. Social peace, economic peace, ecological peace, political peace."*

Ines Leonarduzzi - Executive Director of Digital for the Planet



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**The TRANSITION FORUM also hosted:**

- The [signing of a partnership between Banque des territoires and the Transition Forum association](#) for the Call for expressions of interest "Innovating for the ecological transition of local communities 2022". Open to both companies and territories, the call will be launched next January.
- The signing of the Nice Accords, which mark the commitment of the metropolis to meet ambitious objectives in terms of ecological transition.

*"Come [...] sign the Nice Accords, take part in them. You will thus be watchdogs and you will have the right to sanction us if we do not keep our commitment to lower our carbon emissions by 50% by 2030 and to achieve carbon neutrality in 2050."*

Christian Estrosi - Mayor of Nice

- The experimentation of a green hydrogen bus, Businova by Safra, to accompany our partners and stakeholders.



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