«**Towards a sustainable financial ecosystem**»

An event by the Club of Rome – EU Chapter in honour of *Bernard Lietaer*

(held on the 20th November 2019 on the premises of the Triodos Bank in Brussels)

This event is a half-day forum on how to create a sustainable financial ecosystem. It is to honour the work of *Bernard Lietaer*, former member of the Club of Rome - EU Chapter who was one of the pioneers on this issue. This theme falls under one of five pillars of activities that the Club of Rome places its priority, namely Rethinking Finance. The other four pillars are Climate Emergency, Emerging New Civilization, Reclaiming & Reframing Economics, and Young Leadership.

The welcoming remarks of *Sandrine Dixson-Declève*, co-president of the Club of Rome, and *Roland Moreau*, president of the Club of Rome - EU Chapter were quite enchanting. *Thomas Van Craen* of Triodos bank, a main co-organizer of the event, gave an excellent mission statement of the Bank on this issue.

The core of the forum first summarized the achievement and the contribution of *Bernard Lietaer*, and four main themes, Education - Rules - Measures - Governance, were enlightened by the end of the forum (*Marek Hudon*). *Leen Gorissen* gave a thought-provoking lecture on what nature tells us to tackle problems humans face. *Anne Snick* showed how to put different emergent initiatives dealing with this issue into a systemic map for cocreating solutions, using a qualitative approach that is based on the work of *Bernard Lietaer* and *Robert Ulanowicz*.

One of Lietaer’s brilliant contributions lies in his vision on complementary money. To this regard, *Hugo Wanner* and *Nicolas Franka* presented very interesting cases in which Belgian communities are actually introducing local money in creative ways that supports their sustainability.

A stimulating debate between *Joost Mulder* and *Michel Bauwens* to whom *Hudon* and *Snick* addressed questions, completed the core part of the forum. *Roland Moreau*, president of the Club of Rome - EU Chapter and honorary guest *Carlos* *Alvarez Pereira*, president of the Spanish Chapter and Board member of the Club of Rome, closed the forum with good humor.

The forum progressed in a stimulating and relaxed atmosphere with speakers and audiences of very diverse background actively interacting. The format of the forum was also diverse, key note speakers presenting their unique ideas, inspiring short films to watch, an informal panel talk, and a Q & A game among audiences whose views are collected, summarized and shared.

A sustainable financial ecosystem is a new system to be established with the aim of making the world more sustainable. This forum clearly conveyed this idea and provided us with some suggestions to explore. Special credits go to *Anne Snick* for her work to make this event happen. The Club of Rome - EU Chapter will continue its efforts on this line in full cooperation with the Impact Hub of the Club of Rome. We plan to organize another event on this subject

for a larger public in 2020.
 *(prepared by Sergi Corbalán and Yonghyup Oh, Club of Rome – EU Chapter)*