



Présidence luxembourgeoise
du Conseil de l'Union européenne

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Supporting material* for the presentation by the European Commission on behalf of the European Community and its Member States

EU Policies and Measures to achieve Kyoto targets: The European Climate Change Programme (ECCP)

1. Goals

The ECCP measures are focussed on issues with an EU dimension and complement Climate Change Programmes that Member States are implementing in their own country. Its goals are:

- Implementing practical policies and measures to achieve Kyoto commitments and medium and long term climate change objectives, while not limiting and conversely even benefiting economic growth
- identifying the most cost-effective measures and
- driving forward the implementation of EU policies and measures.

2. Process

The ECCP engages the full range of stakeholders in the process of developing and creating consensus on the strategy: Member States' experts, scientists, business and NGO's. The ECCP initiated and steered the horizontal integration of climate change across other policy areas, in particular energy, transport, research & development, agriculture, and regional development.

3. Progress

Many ECCP measures have already been adopted. The EU has implemented an emissions trading scheme covering approximately 50% of CO₂ emissions in the EU-25, notably of the energy-intensive sectors, to achieve emission reductions in the most cost-effective and flexible way. The "linking Directive" establishes the provisions and rules for enabling economic operators to use credits from Joint Implementation and Clean Development Mechanism for compliance within the emission trading scheme.

Other key measures relate to:

- Energy supply, in particular the promotion of renewable energy (electricity, biofuels), and the promotion of combined heat and power
- Energy demand, in particular on the general improvement of end-use energy efficiency, and the improvement of the energy performance of buildings
- A strategy to reduce CO₂ emissions from passenger cars
- Other gasses, for instance on landfill, on fluorinated gases and on the control of non-CO₂ emissions in industrial installations.

* this paper does not reflect a formal EU position but is intended as a contribution to the debate

4. Further development

The EU is reflecting on lessons from the process of the ECCP and looks forward to learning from similar activities in other countries. The measures under the ECCP that are sufficiently long in place, are delivering real emission reductions. The EU has decided to further develop the ECCP as an effective tool to advance policy development.

The EU is keen to further explore with its partners ways and means to further improve the effectiveness of policies and measures? How can we create links between the ETS and other trading systems/mechanisms? Can we identify best practices, for instance in terms of EU measures and national measures that are mutually reinforcing. Can we better identify co-benefits of climate change policies and measures, for instance in terms of air quality, innovation, development of new businesses and employment? How can cooperation on policies and measures be further developed internationally?