



WWF

ACTION PLAN

EU

2014

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Our energy future is in renewables: they have a great potential to provide more clean energy to European citizens and to make Europe independent energetically. WWF calls for a sustainable energy solution with their 100 % renewable energy vision for 2050 and their work has given strong support to calls for a binding renewable energy target for Europe.

Corinne Lepage –
Former ALDE MEP and rapporteur on
the Renewable Energy Directive



90%

of Europeans think that it is important for their government to set targets to increase the amount of renewable energy used by 2030²

BUILD EUROPE'S RENEWABLE ENERGY FUTURE

Europe is on track to achieve its 20% renewable energy target for 2020, thanks to legal requirements on Member States to meet their share of the effort. However, the European Council has agreed to abandon national targets in favour of an EU wide target that Member States will contribute to through a new governance system. There is very little explanation of how this might actually work in practice, particularly with regards to enforcement. The Council has furthermore agreed an EU renewable energy target of only 27% - far below what is needed to drive a successful renewable energy transition in Europe.

HOW CAN MEPs IMPROVE THIS POLICY?

- Aim for legislation which would implement binding national renewable energy targets that would deliver 45% renewable energy in the EU by 2030. Research commissioned by WWF, and supported by other comparable studies, has demonstrated both the feasibility and benefits of such ambition¹.
- Strengthen the European Parliament's position for a 30% binding renewable energy target, adopted in February 2014. Any legislative proposal below the Parliament's position should be rejected.
- Support the continuation of the *'Directive for the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources'* (EC 2009/28) beyond 2020, and the updating of any elements needed to adapt it to the requirements of a 2030 framework.
- Support legislation that would reinforce the Commission's powers to facilitate and enforce national renewable energy targets, e.g. through enhanced access to funding, and sanctions for non-compliance.

YOUR ACTION PLAN

- 1 Call for and support via parliamentary questions, reports, and votes, an *EU wide renewable energy target*, which is higher than the Council's EU binding target of 27% and aim for a Renewable Energy share of 45% in 2030.
- 2 Call for and support via parliamentary questions, reports and votes, the Parliament's position *to maintain binding national renewable energy targets* for all EU Member States, to be met by 2030.
- 3 Closely scrutinise via co-decision any Commission legislative proposals for a new energy system governance framework, and reject any proposals that fail to hold Member States responsible for delivering on their commitments to increase renewable energy.

WE MUST ACT NOW!

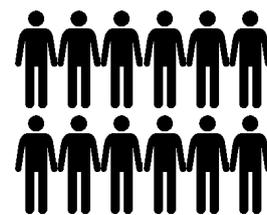
- An energy system based on more renewable energy benefits everyone. The Commission calculates that cutting emissions by 45% would save 13 million life years in Europe in 2030³.
- Cutting emissions by 45% would save €550 billion in fossil fuel import costs over 20 years. However, the Commission's proposed cut of 40% would lead to only a third of these savings - €190 billion⁴.
- In 2010 the EU's renewables industry employed over 1.1 million people⁵, a number that could grow to 2.8 million in 2020, and rise to 3.4 million in 2030⁶.
- A significant proportion of Europe's current energy generation capacity is due to be phased out in the coming years, raising the question of what will replace it. All the Commission's scenarios envisage large scale fossil fuel plants being built, but with no guarantee that related emissions could be abated by Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS). Rather than run the risk of non-delivery on CCS, new renewable energy generation capacity should be prioritised over new fossil fuel plants.
- The International Energy Agency confirms that delaying climate action is a false economy: globally, for every \$1 of investment avoided in the power sector before 2020 an additional \$4.3 would need to be spent after 2020 to compensate for the increased emissions⁷.
- Efforts to boost renewable energy are starting to pay off, and any lowering of ambition would undermine past investments. After 2020, only offshore wind would still need to be supported by subsidies⁸.

TIMELINE

23-24 October 2014:
European Council agreed headline targets for 2020-2030 EU climate and energy framework

December 2015:
UNFCCC COP21 in Paris to agree on an international climate package

2015-2016:
Commission legislative proposals for an EU 2020-2030 climate and energy framework, to go for co-decision



1.1mn
employees in the renewable energy sector in 2010. This could rise to 3.4 million in 2030

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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