Major air pollutant sources

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Air Quality & Health

● In 2005, excessive levels of PM were estimated to cause 455,000 premature deaths/year in EU27.

• Under the Baseline scenario, by 2030 PM pollution would still cause more than 300,000 premature deaths/year.



Maps: Loss of statistical life expectancy from PM exposure (months)

Sources: IIASA (Nov 2012); EMRC (Nov 2012); EEA (June 2009)



2010: 62% (1,000,000 km²)





2030 Baseline: 54% (890,000 km²)

Source: IIASA (Nov 2012)

Acidification

2010: 7.5% (96,000 km²)





2030 Baseline: 3.7% (47,000 km²) AirClim







SO,

Source: EEA (2012)

Potential for emission reductions 2010-2050





Further emission reductions from: - Decarbonisation (mainly SO₂ & NOx) - Air pollution control measures (could further halve emissions)



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Source: IIASA (2013)

Sectoral measures – examples (1)

• Smaller industrial combustion plants (1 - 50 MW_{th}):

- Set binding Emission Limit Values (ELV) and require use of Best Available Techniques (BAT), e.g. through IED-directive

• Domestic solid fuel combustion (boilers, stoves, etc.):

Set stringent ELVs for new installations in Ecodesign directive;
Phase-out or retrofit existing installations

• Agriculture:

 Nitrogen management; Measures linked to feeding, housing, manure storage & application; Lower meat consumption; Enforce ban on agricultural waste burning

Sectoral measures – examples (2)

- Non-Road Mobile Machinery (NRMM):
 - Stricter ELVs in the NRMM-directive; Retrofit PM-traps
- Road vehicles:
 - Ensure real-life compliance; New Euro 7/VII-standards
- Solvents:
 - Reduce solvent-content in products
- International shipping:

- SO₂- and NOx-Emission Control Areas in all European seas; NOx-control on existing ships; PM/BC-control; Lower speeds

What's needed?

- Support not least from member states for a high level of ambition in EU's air pollution policy:
 - NECs for 2020/25/30 that achieve EU's environmental objectives;
 - Air quality standards in line with WHO's recommendations;
 - New/strengthened sector legislation to support the NECs;
 - Measures to ensure compliance and enforcement.
- Action on ships: EU and member states must push action in the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) for measures to cut ship emissions.
- Action on greenhouse gases: Domestic and international action (in the FCCC) for binding commitments that safeguard a maximum temperature increase of 1.5 degrees.

Conclusions

- Air pollutant emissions and damage are still much too high.
- Further emission reductions bring significant benefits to society.
- Revised TSAP and NEC directive should aim to achieve EU's environmental objectives.
- Ensuring a high level of ambition in the revised NEC directive requires new and strengthened sectoral measures, especially for:
 - Agriculture (NH₃, PM/BC, CH₄)
 - International shipping (SO₂, NOx, PM/BC)
 - Domestic solid-fuel combustion (PM/BC, VOCs)
 - Road and non-road vehicles (NOx, PM/BC)
 - Small industrial combustion plants (SO₂, NOx)
 - Solvents in products (VOCs)
- Climate policy has great impact on air pollutant (SO₂ and NOx) emissions. EU must establish and implement faster and more far-reaching domestic GHG emission reductions.

More information?

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