



EU clean air policy framework

OECD-EAERE workshop „The economic impacts of air pollution and the implications for policy” “

24 June 2020



European Green Deal: clean air

The European Green Deal announces that the Commission will adopt a **zero pollution action plan** for air, water and soil in 2021.

The Commission will draw on the **lessons learnt from the evaluation** of the current air quality legislation.

The Commission will also propose to strengthen provisions on **monitoring, modelling** and **air quality plans** to help local authorities achieve cleaner air.

The Commission will notably propose to revise **air quality standards** to align them more closely with the World Health Organization recommendations.



Air Quality Directives Fitness Check

- **State of play:**
 - Air quality remains a major **health and environmental concern**;
 - Air quality standards have been instrumental, and **partially effective**, to reduce pollution;
 - Current EU standards are **less ambitious than scientific advice**
- **Way forward:**
 - Provisions on **monitoring, modelling, plans**
 - **WHO guidelines** (expected 2021)
 - Apply **Better Regulation** guidelines

Effective and publicly acceptable air quality policies: a few thoughts

- **Evidence base** for setting standards and requirements
 - Costs and benefits of (in)action on
 - Health and environment
 - Economy and social equality
 - Impact assessment & stakeholder consultation
- **Exploit synergies** when taking action, e.g.
 - Transport: air, economic efficiency, quality of life (also responding to recent debates)
 - Energy efficiency: air, climate, energy bills, comfort
- **Identify the benefits of clean air – and talk about them**
 - Cleaner air benefits health, but also productivity and social equality

Thank you



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