Evaluation of Climate Policy in the European Commission

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EU climate policy has evolved fast

Since 2005 EU climate legislation has grown significantly in scope and ambition. It now includes:

- A complete framework of climate laws and emission reduction targets covering the period until 2030.
- A comprehensive monitoring and reporting system for greenhouse gas emissions, policies and measures, and projections.
- Annual reports on Member States’ progress towards EU and international targets and obligations.

Under the Energy Union Governance, the EU will have an integrated monitoring and reporting system for climate and energy policies for the period 2021-2030.
Number of national climate policies and measures reported by EU Member States

Source: EEA

Work in progress: National Energy and Climate Plans
European Commission is continuously evaluating climate policy

1. Monitoring climate policy impacts in the EU:
   - Annual progress report on climate action
   - European Semester

2. Better Regulation: Evaluating climate legislation

3. Case studies evaluating national policies

4. EU research project on evaluations of climate policies in Member States
Some recommendations for climate policy makers and evaluators

- Member States’ *reporting and evaluation* of climate policies and measures *should be more consistent and complete* – key data on costs and emission effects are often missing.
- Evaluations should *consider packages of measures* and not only separate policies. Need to better understand the role of measures within packages and to consider the optimal mix.
- Evaluations should *examine intended and unintended effects* of climate policies (jobs, environment, health, innovation etc).
- More focus needed on *long-term effects*: Do measures lead to long-term structural market changes in support of EU emission reduction targets?
Support for better use of climate policy evaluation in the EU

- Objective to improve Member States' capacity for performing climate policy evaluations
- Survey to identify Member State needs
- Guidance for Member States on ex-post policy evaluation
- Capacity building support for Member States, including on ex-post evaluation
- Knowledge sharing activities on policy evaluation
Thank you!

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