



European
Commission

CLEAN AIR FOR ALL



Clean air in Europe improves our health and quality of life; helps fight climate change and preserves the environment.

“Our children deserve a Europe that preserves their way of life. They deserve a Europe that empowers them. They deserve a Europe that protects.”

European Commission President Juncker, States of the Union Address, 14 September 2016

In the European Union, air quality has generally improved over the last decades, often thanks to joint efforts by the EU and national, regional and local authorities. However, home to **3 out of 4 Europeans**, many urban areas still suffer from dangerously high levels of air pollution.



400 000 premature deaths in the EU every year are linked to air pollution.

AIR POLLUTION IS THE SECOND BIGGEST ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN FOR EUROPEANS AFTER CLIMATE CHANGE



THREE PILLARS TO ADDRESS AIR POLLUTION:

Ambient Air Quality Standards - for ground level ozone, particulate matter, nitrogen oxides, dangerous heavy metals and a number of other pollutants. Agreed by all Member States to be attained from 2005 or 2010 onwards.

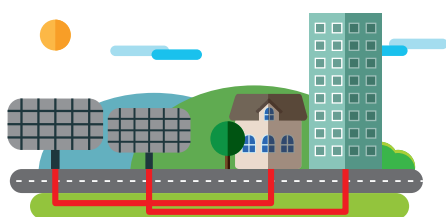
National Emissions Ceilings Directive - established for the most important trans-boundary air pollutants: sulphur oxides, nitrogen oxides, ammonia, volatile organic compounds and particulate matter.

Emissions standards for key sources of pollution - from vehicle and ship emissions to energy and industry. The Juncker Commission set as priorities a strong **Energy Union; Clean, Safe and Connected Mobility** and committed to the targets on decarbonisation of the **Paris Agreement**. During its mandate it has introduced measures, including on:

- ▶ Cleaner vehicles: new CO₂ standards for cars and vans for the period post-2020 and first ever CO₂ standards for trucks. New measures to accelerate the market uptake of clean vehicles
- ▶ Updating road pricing, for example to encourage less polluting modes and decongest traffic
- ▶ Promoting alternative energies, such as electric cars: New measures to improve the deployment of charging infrastructure and an Action plan on batteries.



Cost-effective solutions exist and are widely available. They support innovation and have a positive impact on EU competitiveness, in line with the Juncker Commission's priorities on sustainable growth and job-creation. Examples include:



City or district heating, using heat from existing industry or renewable energy sources



Traffic restrictions, such as low-emission zones, reduced speed limits and congestion charges



More **energy-efficient buildings**



Reliable, affordable and clean **public transport** such as electric buses and trams and new Euro VI or retrofitted buses

EU FINANCIAL SUPPORT & CLOSE CO-OPERATION BETWEEN MEMBER STATES AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION ARE INDISPENSABLE

- ▶ **Clean Air Dialogues** to support Member States' implementation efforts
- ▶ **EUR 372 million** under the **EU Urban Agenda and Urban Innovative Actions** to facilitate the cooperation with cities to address air pollution in urban areas
- ▶ **EUR 1.8 billion** for Member States to support air quality measures under the European Structural and Investment Funds 2014-2020. To date, investments include:
 - in the low-carbon economy (EUR 45 billion),
 - environmental protection and resource efficiency (EUR 63 billion)
 - network infrastructure (EUR 58 billion)
- ▶ **EUR 1 billion** in 39 clean transport projects to upgrade Europe's rail network, further develop alternative fuels infrastructure and pave the way for zero emission water transport

