



ACTING **NOW** FOR BETTER HEALTH

**A 30% REDUCTION TARGET
FOR EU CLIMATE POLICY**



Climate action promotes health and saves costs!

The European Union can boost people's health and save on healthcare budgets by substantially strengthening its climate policy.

"Acting NOW for better health, A 30% reduction target for EU climate policy", published by Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL) and Health Care Without Harm (HCWH), says:

- Stronger climate policy brings huge health gains that should be weighed against the cost of moving to higher targets on emission reductions.
- The sooner action is taken, the better for health.

The report's technical section, written by Mike Holland, a leading economic consultant, shows that:

An EU move beyond the current 20% target to a 30% target on reducing domestic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions would bring health benefits valued at up to €30.5 billion every year by 2020.

These health improvements would be on top of the €52 billion health gains anticipated as a result of emission cuts to reach the EU's current 20% target. The benefits are due to a decline in respiratory and heart illness prompted by improvements in air quality as emission levels fall.

European governments can boost national health and save on healthcare budgets if the EU opts for a 30% emissions reduction target by 2020.

Health benefits for different EU member states (upper band estimates)

Germany	€8.1 billion	Netherlands	€1.1 billion
Poland	€4.0 billion	Belgium	€0.9 billion
France	€3.5 billion	Spain	€0.9 billion
Italy	€3.4 billion	U.K.	€0.9 billion

A separate annex to the report provides figures on health benefits for Austria, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Portugal, Romania and Slovakia. See "Results by country" at

www.env-health.org/actingnow.

Download full report at:

www.env-health.org/actingnow or www.noharm.org/europe

