

Statement on Germany's Draft 2050 Low-Carbon Plan (unauthorised translation)

Decarbonisation Plan must offer businesses guidelines with clear sector targets

Coordinated by



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In the Paris Agreement, the international community committed to limiting global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius and to striving for 1.5 degrees. All Paris Agreement signatory states agreed to submit timetables for their long-term decarbonisation. **As the central framework for the national implementation of Germany's climate targets, the Decarbonisation Plan must be consistent with the Paris Agreement.**

The globally binding Paris Agreement provides the basis for capitalising on low-carbon development as one of the big economic opportunities. The 2050 Decarbonisation Plan ought to give German businesses a basis upon which to become international leaders in innovations for sustainable products and services. Entrepreneurial climate protection will create jobs and secure the competitiveness of Germany as a business location.

To push forward ambitiously with climate protection and the Energiewende, businesses need to be able to plan. **From the point of view of businesses and investors, it is crucially important that the Decarbonisation Plan gives clear signals that the commitments made in Paris will be implemented.**

The 2050 Decarbonisation Plan therefore ought to:

1. **focus on an explicit climate target at the upper end of the current target corridor of an 80 to 95 per cent greenhouse gases reduction by 2050.** This derives from the global targets agreed in Paris, thereby ensuring planning and investment security for businesses.
2. **set targets for all economic sectors for 2030.** This is the only way to develop new business models and concrete plans for the decarbonisation that highlight – for all businesses – possible fields of implementation activity and that offer incentives for investment as well as scope for innovation. Policies must give clear signals, focused on investment cycles, so that businesses can prepare for the future.
3. **chart a path towards significantly more energy efficiency and a transition to 100 per cent renewable energy as soon as possible.** Last but not least, the Decarbonisation Plan should initiate a debate on possible ways of ending coal-powered electricity, the necessary structural change connected with this, and the future of further fossil fuel energy sources. The Decarbonisation Plan ought to progress sector coupling as quickly as possible, and make a success of the heating and mobility transition.

Such a 2050 Decarbonisation Plan could – inter alia through Germany's beginning G 20 presidency – have a positive global impact and contribute significantly to Germany's economic success in the coming decades. In the best interests of climate protection and its competitiveness, Germany should encourage within and beyond the G20 as many other countries as possible to submit own ambitious decarbonisation plans by 2018.

Coordinated by: Foundation 2° | B.A.U.M. e.V. | Germanwatch

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