

HEAL Climate & Health Advocacy Virtual Exchange Meeting



Climate & Health Advocacy Call

September 18, 2025

Claudio Lanza, Senior Policy and Advocacy Officer HEAL

Political Context post-SOTEU25

Sharing Round

Policy Development

- 2040 revision – European Climate Law (ECL)
- European Climate Resilience Framework
- Climate snapshot on 2028-34 EU budget proposals

Key dates & opportunities

CLIMATE & ENERGY



Sharing
Round



CLIMATE & ENERGY



Policy Update



2040 target – Weakened & Delayed

Context

- Commission proposed a 2040 target of 90% reduction of GHG emissions (compared to 1990 levels) + 3% international carbon credits (from 2036) + 'flexibilities'

What happened

- DK (weaker) compromised solution pushed for vote on Sept 18
 - o DE and FR backed a sizable minority (Czech Republic, Malta, Austria, Slovakia, Romania, Hungary, Latvia, Italy, and Poland) to block the vote on 2040 target

What now

- Statement of intent on 2035 target includes a range (66%-72%) leaving space for unambitious agreement for 2040 target
 - o EU will miss deadline (23 Sept) to submit their 2035-related NDCs
- **EU leaders expected to agree (unanimously!) on 22-23 Oct**

While in Parliament...ENVI Committee's expected vote on Sept 23 is delayed

More 'flexibilities' means more harm

- COM's 2040 target 'enabling policies'

- From 2036, 3% of **international carbon credits** – "verifiable", "certifiable" "additional".
 - Poland proposed 10% inter. carbon credits from 2031
- Integrate domestic permanent carbon removals into **EU ETS** to compensate hard-to-abate sectors.
- Cross-sector **flexibility** between 2030 and 2040, compensating hard-to-abate sectors with emission reduction overachieving in other sectors.

Exceptions for hard-to-abate sectors will increase domestic pollution, leading to additional premature deaths and costs of inaction.*

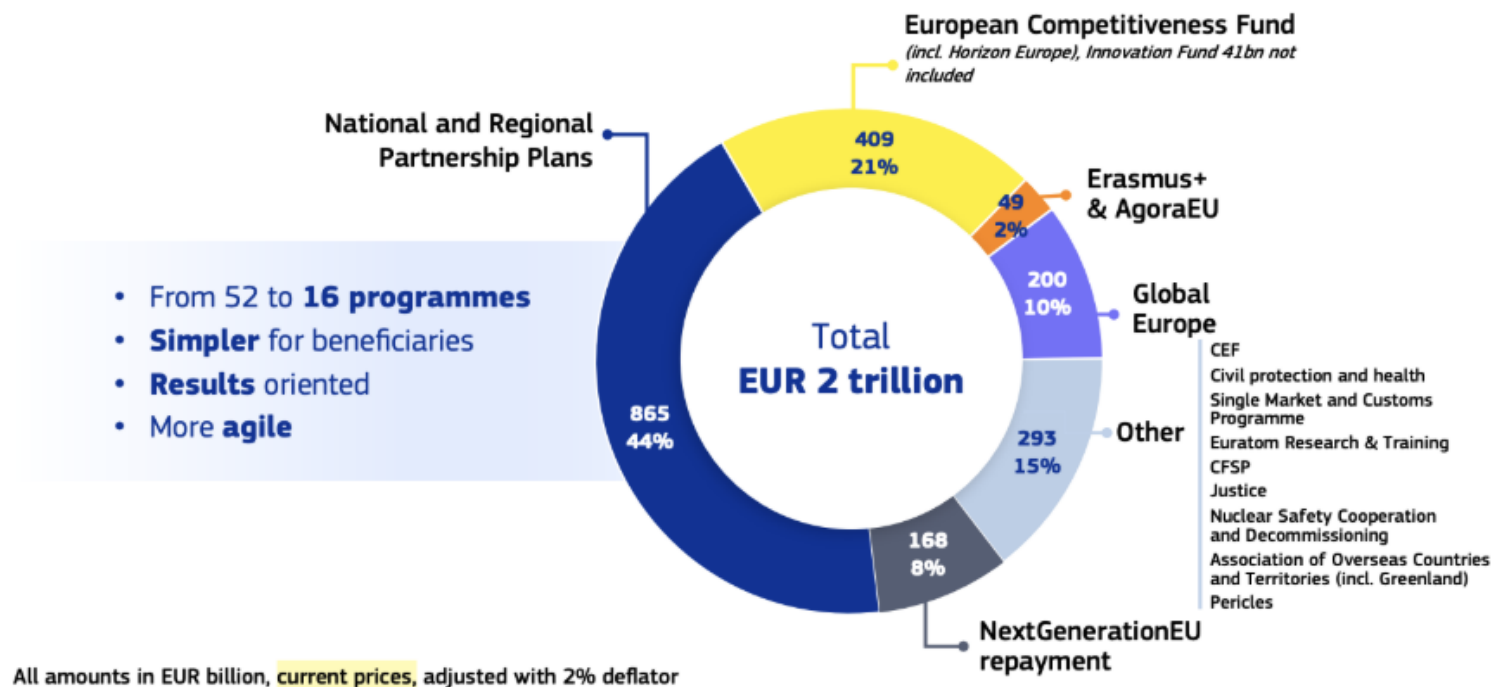
*Source: [May 2024 COM ECL impact assessment](#)

- **Risking higher air pollution deaths...**
 - above the projected drop from 466,000 (2015) to 196,000 (2040)—and **reducing potential health cost savings** from €1,700 billion to €670 billion.
- **...and higher cost of inaction**
 - Between 2031-2050, they could amount to **EUR 2.4 trillion** in the EU, compared to the costs associated to 1.5°C pathway.

European Climate Resilience and Risk Management framework (expected in 2026)

HEAL submission to the call for evidence	
1	Set a legal mandate to achieve a climate-resilient Europe + intermediary targets
2	Include health in national climate adaptation plans with binding commitments
3	Set ambitious and mandatory heat protection goals for EU countries's HHAPs
4	Consider socio-economic inequalities
5	Foster collaboration & partnership between health & climate actors across all levels

28-34 MFF – Climate Spending



- **35%** climate (mitigation and adaptation) and environment (pollution reduction) mainstreaming target
- **EUR 26.21 bn** from European Competitiveness Fund
- **EUR 25.33 bn** from Horizon Europe

**Greenwashing
Risk**

CLIMATE & ENERGY



What's next



Key Opportunities

- **Member States** need to hear the urgency of policy action and investments in climate and health
 - On 2040 climate target, EU leaders will decide.
 - On MFF, EU leaders will discuss MFF in late October [window of opportunity is greater at the early debate stage].

- **Commission** needs to hear the importance of stepping up climate and health policy action
 - Public consultation will place climate resilience high on the agenda.

- **Parliament** needs to put pressure and raise the ambition
 - On 2040 target, EPP MEPs are kingmakers but currently split.
 - On MFF, non-binding resolution should call for higher ambition.

2025/26 – Key Climate Dates Updated



2025	
Sept 18	Environment Council adopts statement of intent on 2035 target
Sept 23	ENVI Committee vote on 2040 target [postponed]
Oct 7/8	EP Plenary vote on 2040 target [postponed?]
Oct 20-21?	Plenary non-binding resolution on MFF
Oct 22-23	European Council expected should adopt 2035 and 2040 climate targets
Oct/Nov	Commission public consultation on EU climate resilience plan (12 weeks)
2026	
2026	Commission's European Climate Law 2040 policy package
2026	further consultations with citizens, stakeholders, MEPs
4Q 2026	Commission adopts EU climate resilience policy package



Thank you

Claudio Lanza
Senior Policy and Advocacy Officer
claudio@env-health.org

MUNDO MADOU

Avenue des Arts 7/8, B-1210 Bruxelles

www.env-health.org



HEAL gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the European Union (EU) for the production of this publication. The responsibility for the content lies with the authors and the views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the EU institutions and funders. The European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA) and the funders are not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained in this publication.

HEAL EU transparency register number: 00723343929-96

