

# Achieving Europe's 2040 climate target

EESC public hearing, March 18th 2024

Chiara Antonelli, PhD, Head of Programme of Climate and Circular Economy Team



#### **Key Message 1**



## Material resource use: Pursue a reduction in material demand and associated climate impact through a new dedicated EU law.

We need to radically transform the way materials are used to meet our needs.

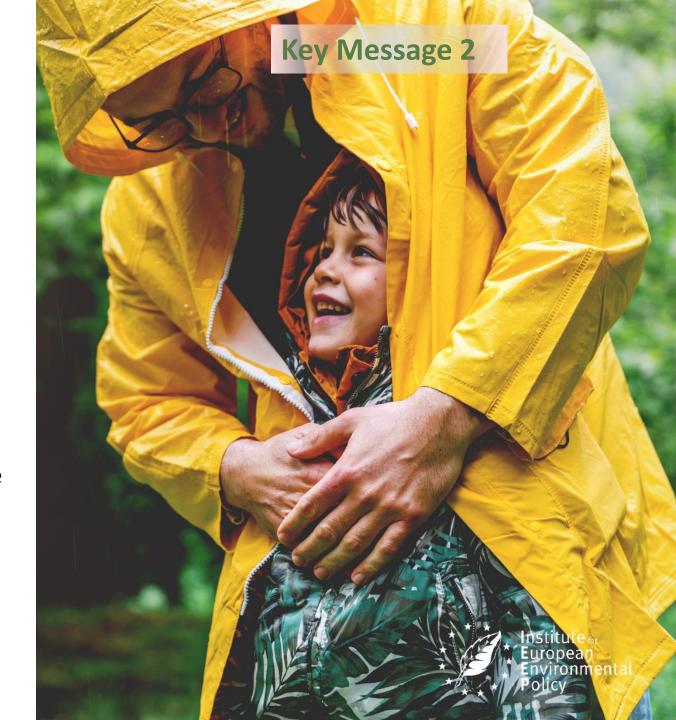
#### Introduction of an **EU Resource Law** including:

- A legally binding headline target to reduce material resource consumption;
- Material- and/or sector-specific targets;
- Indicators to measure progress;
- Establishment of an independent scientific advisory body focused on material resources;
- MSs to develop national plans on how they intend to achieve the material resource consumption reduction targets;
- An implementation mechanism.

#### Climate policy and socio-economic impacts

Pursue synergies and manage trade-offs between climate and social policies for efficacy and public support.

- Climate change mitigation, health, and wellbeing are inextricably interlinked.
- Acknowledge and reinforce the link in NDCs and build synergies in national plans for resilience, adaptation, and disaster risk reduction.
- To build political and **social acceptability** of climate and energy policies, it is imperative to acknowledge and address potential negative social impacts while emphasizing the positive social impacts and underscoring the **costs of inaction**.





#### **Getting the prices right: Make the Polluter Pay**

## Promote the implementation of EU-level policies to make the polluter pay.

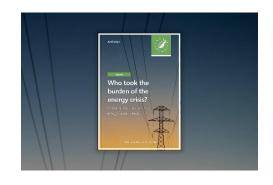
Carefully designed climate mitigation policies serve as a dualpurpose tool to **reach social goals, while mitigating the climate crisis** in a socially acceptable manner.

#### Key actions:

- Implement different taxation measures in the aviation sector;
- Require MSs to design electricity tax rates to benefit lowerincome households most;
- Ensure that MSs can make use of energy tax exemptions for households at risk of poverty;
- End tax exemptions or reductions that likely disproportionately benefit higher income households and men;
- Encourage MSs to recycle additional revenues from the ETD reform to benefit lower-income households, using the European Semester process for oversight.

### References









Making the case for an EU resources law

Who took the Burden of Energy prices?

Can Polluter Pays policies be progressive?

Can Polluter Pays principles in the aviation sector be progressive?





